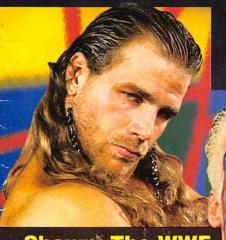
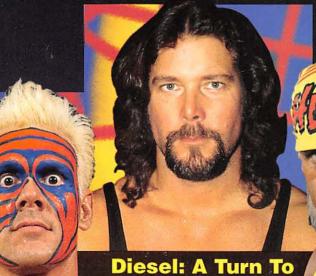


# TOP STARS

# What 1996 Has In Store For Them!



Shawn: The WWF Championship!



Rulebreaking!

**Hulk: Career Under Siege!** 

\$2.50 U.S. \$3.50 CANADA £1.95 U.K.



Sting: Continued Frustration!



### SUBSCRIBE TODAY TO THE WORLD'S LEADING WRESTLING MAGAZINE

### THE LEADER OF THE PACK

For over a decade, PWI has been bringing the wrestling arena (and the locker room) to the fans. No other wrestling magazine that covers the entire spectrum of the sport can boast of the same quality writers, editors, and photographers. PWI is acknowledged worldwide as the best!

### **EXCLUSIVE FEATURES!**

PWI's award-winning staff is always where the action is, providing the most complete coverage of wrestling available anywhere. From the great staff of writers, through the dramatic peak-action photographs, to the magnificent full-color centerfold-PWI brings you wrestling action at its best. PWI includes exclusive features you can't get anywhere else: Our comprehensive "Arena Reports" . . . Eddie Ellner's lively and controversial "Off The Top Rope" . . . An incisive "Press Conference" with one of the sport's top stars . . . Extensive "Ratings" . . . "Scouting Reports" . . "Time Capsules" . . . And don't forget: Your subscription to PWI includes the spectacular 100-page year-end issue, priced at \$3.95 on the newsstand (if you can find it!) and any other specials we produce throughout the year!

### TWO WAYS TO SUBSCRIBE!

- Order a 13-issue subscription to PWI and save 20% off the regular newsstand price!
- Order a 26-issue subscription to PWI and receive a whopping 25% savings off the regular newsstand rate!

Don't miss a single issue! Subscribe today!



Yes, I would like to subscribe to PRO WRESTLING ILL	USTRATED
I am enclosing \$32.80 for a one-year (13-issue) substances and price!	
I am enclosing \$61.50 for a two-year (26-issue) subst newsstand rate!	cription—a full 25% savings off the
Please indicate method of payment:	
☐ Check or money order (enclosed and payable to Lond	lon Publishing Co.)
□ VISA □ MasterCard	
Card #:	
Signature:	Expiration Date:/_
Send to: London Publishing Co. P.O. Box 910 Ft. Washington, PA 19034	MO/YR
Name	
Address	

International money order in U.S. funds only for orders outside U.S. Please allow up to eight weeks before you receive your first issue.

3807/06-95

# THE MAGAZINE THAT RIPS THE LID OFF PRO WRESTLING FEBRUARY 1996

### **DEPARTMENTS**

- 4 SINCERELY YOURS
- 6 REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK by Stu Saks
- 8 NAMES MAKIN' NEWS by Bill Apter
- 10 ON THE ROAD with Dave Lenker
- 12 BEHIND THE DRESSING ROOM DOOR by David Rosenbaum
- 14 THE INSIDER by Eddie Ellner
- 16 ON ASSIGNMENT by Liz Hunter
- 18 CAPSULE PROFILE #237: TERRY FUNK
- 20 WHERE ARE THEY NOW?
- 22 NEWS FROM THE WRESTLING CAPITALS
- 24 MATT BROCK'S PLAIN SPEAKING
- 26 INSIDE WRESTLING CLASSIC (February 1981)
- 54 ONE ON ONE: JEFF JARRETT vs. JESSE JAMES ARMSTRONG
- 64 OFFICIAL WRESTLING RATINGS
- 65 INSIDE WRESTLING ROLL CALL OF CHAMPIONS
- 66 BLAST FROM THE PAST

### **FEATURES**

- 30 SHERRI & COL. PARKER: THE STEAMIEST INTERVIEW WE NEVER CONDUCTED! It was a limousine ride to remember for one of our writers
- 34 WRESTLING'S TOP STARS
  WHAT 1996 HAS IN STORE FOR THEM!
  For some, it could be great; for others, better luck in '97
- 42 MIKEY WHIPWRECK:

  "I'M NOT AFRAID ANYMORE!"

  The new ECW heavyweight champion tells all in "Hotseat"
- 46 SHOT TO HELL: WHY NO ONE RESPECTS THE SMOKIN' GUNNS The kids love Billy and Bart, but the older set, well ...
- 50 GOLDUST:
  ABSURDITY IS ONLY SKIN-DEEP
  Remember, beneath that stupid outfit lies the body of Dustin Rhodes





Next issue on sale January 23, 1996

## Sincerely Yours

Send letters to: Sincerely Yours P.O. Box 1148 Fort Washington, PA 19034

### AN A+ FOR MANNERS

I recently attended a WWF card in Port Huron, Michigan, and I was surprised by what I witnessed while waiting to get inside. The actions of Shane "Dean" Douglas made me and everyone else who saw what

> happened think differently about him. As the wrestlers parked their cards and entered the arena, a small crowd gathered for autographs. A man who was about 70 years old and in a wheelchair waited at the end of the line. Douglas was just one of the wrestlers going into the arena. He stopped, signed the man's book, and gave him an affectionate pat on the shoulder before heading into the building.

I never really liked Douglas before that night. Now I am

happy that he got the Intercontinental belt from Shawn Michaels, even if it was only for one night. I guess it just goes to show that a man's actions in the ring have nothing to do with the kind of person he is away from the ring. Dean Douglas may be hearing the fans' boos right now, but I am one fan who thinks he should be praised. Douglas now has a new fan who hopes to see him with the Intercontinental belt again real soon.

ROY BARNETT St. Clair, MI

### **GANG WARFARE**

I still cannot believe that The Gangstas actually invaded ECW ("Turf War: The Gangstas Invade Public Enemy's Territory," December 1995). Everyone knows Public Enemy rules ECW, and they deserve to have a chance to meet their attackers head on. P.E. shouldn't be jumped from behind like those cowards did in Philly in their first ECW appearance.

Mustafa Saed and New Jack have always boasted about their superiority to other wrestlers, no matter where they wrestled. If they are so superior, why didn't they face Public Enemy face-to-face instead of using underhanded tactics to get ahead. If they were half the men they claim to be, they would have been able to do just as much damage to Rocco Rock and Johnny Grunge without their nightsticks, too. Don't get me wrong, they are tough guys in the ring, but they always seem to need some special assistance from foreign objects.

> SAM PENZA Landover, MD

#### BATTLE FOR NUMBER ONE

When WCW needed a boost last year, Hulk Hogan and a slew of ex-WWF stars entered the federation. When the WWF needed a boost, Lawrence Taylor demolished Bam Bam Bigelow at WrestleMania XI, and the WWF got a lot of mainstream publicity. Because of this, I believed at the



Most fans were glad to see Dean Douglas lose the Intercontinental title on the same night it was awarded to him. Reader Roy Barnett, however, saw a kinder side of Douglas recently.



New Jack knocks down Public Enemy's Johnny Grunge during a bloody ECW match. Reader Sam Penza has no respect for The Gangstas and the despicable tactics they use.

time that the WWF was the most dominant federation in North America. But now that WCW Monday Nitro airs live every Monday night, I realize that WCW is the dominant organization in North America.

Nitro is like a 60-minute payper-view broadcast, but it doesn't cost anything. With exciting matches like Lex Luger vs. Hulk Hogan, Luger against "Macho Man" Randy Savage, and Ric Flair against Arn Anderson inside a steel cage, you can't go wrong. I especially enjoy the commentary by Bobby "The Brain" Heenan, Eric Bischoff, and Steve Mc-Michael. One of the things I like most is that so far, there haven't been any matches involving preliminary wrestlers.

I still think WWF Monday Night Raw is cool, but it's only live once a month or so, and a wrestling show is always more unpredictable when it airs live.

By the time you read this,

Vince McMahon will probably have found a way to make the WWF number one again, but I just want to tell WCW to keep up the good work.

MATT JACKSON Garden City, KS

### LOSING THAT MANIACAL TOUCH

What is going on with Big Van Vader? The man who was once the most feared wrestler on the face of the planet has somehow become a shallow shell of his former self. He's no longer the monstrously tough man that used to strike fear into the heart of anyone who crossed his path. Vader used to be a force to be reckoned with, but all that has changed. He hasn't even been wrestling for a few months.

Where did this bad guy lose his magical, maniacal touch? What happened to that nut case we all loved to hate? Did Hulk Hogan break the spell by getting up from (Continued on page 56)

### VVZInside The Stating

#### STANLEY WESTON

Founder

PUBLISHER......Stuart M. Saks
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER.....Craig Peters
SENIOR EDITOR.....Bill Apter
MANAGING EDITOR.....David Lenker
ASSOCIATE EDITOR....Brandi Mankiewicz
ART DIRECTORS....Kim Branson

Tina Filice Joseph Kalman

Alex Krasnopolsky

Lisa Ryan

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR.....Bob Eddy PRODUCTION ASSOCIATES......Cliff Campo

Bernard V. Thompson III

Ron Frankhouser

Stephen DiAddezio

SENIOR WRITERS......David Rosenbaum

Andy Rodriguez

Chris Bernucca

Eddie Ellner

PHOTO EDITOR .....Jason Ross Lavin

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS ..... Matt Brock

Elizabeth A. Hunter

### VICE PRESIDENT MARKETING

David Gerhardt

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT CIRCULATION

Kenneth J. Gudaitis

CIRCULATION DIRECTOR

Robert Nucci

### ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

Joe Pomaco (215) 643-6385

### CUSTOMER SERVICES

P.O. Box 96 - Dept. CS Fort Washington, PA 19034

#### COVER DESIGN:

Lisa Ryan

INSIDE WRESTLING, February 1996, (ISSN: 1047-9562) is published monthly, with an additional issue in December, by London Publishing Co., 7002 W. Butler Pike, Ambler, PA 19002. Second-class postage paid at Ambler, PA 19002 and additional post offices. Postmaster: Send change of address notices to: Inside Wriestung, P.O. Box 910, Fort Washington, PA 19034. Single copy price \$2.50 (\$3.50 in Canada, \$1.95 in U.K.). Subscription price \$29.20 for 13 issues in the U.S., \$39.60 in remaining countries. Not responsible for the loss or non-return of unsolicited articles or photographs, which will not be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed envelope bearing the proper amount of postage. No part of this magazine may be reproduced without the written permission of the publisher. All rights reserved. FOR ADVERTIS-ING INQUIRIES AND RATES: (215) 643-6385. U.S. and Canadian distribution by Kable News Inc., 11 West 42nd St., New York, NY 10036. International distribution by Worldwide Media Service Inc., 115 East 23rd St., New York, NY 10010. U.K. distribution by Comag, Tavistock Rd., West Drayton, Middlesex UB77QE, England.

Printed in U.S.A.



## REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK By Stu Saks

Over the next few months, Jimmy Hart is going to have a lot to say about his relationship with Hulk Hogan. If you're one of those people whose skin doesn't crawl when he hears fingernails scratch against a blackboard, you might even be able to listen to him.

Let's see. The average person speaks about 300 words per minute. Hart can probably get off three times that amount. Assuming he gets about five minutes to speak per broadcast, that means he'll utter roughly 4,500 words per WCW show. With five separate WCW broadcasts per week, that totals 22,500 words. Over a three-month period, prepare yourself for 292,500 words.

While those words will be spoken by Hart, they probably won't be spoken from the heart. Don't expect a sincere explanation of his turn against Hogan. Sincerity is sin to Jimmy Hart. He's a man who does what is best for Jimmy Hart at all times. If that means supporting Hulk Hogan, he'll do it. If that means masterminding an attack against Hogan, so be it.

I don't know how Hart can live with himself without feeling guilty about sacking the man who carried him on his massive back into a new tax bracket. But that's Hart. If you have the stomach (and the time) to listen to him, he'll try to convince you that he was responsible for Hogan's success, not vice versa.

For all the bad press Hogan has received over the years, he's really an okay guy. He's a horrible judge of character, though. He didn't need eyes behind his head to realize that the man jumping up and down behind him would one day trade in his megaphone for a knife.

### COMING JANUARY 2

## THE

The Spectacular Year-End Double Issue Of

# PROJECT STRATED

ONE

THE MOST CELEBRATED MAGAZINE EVENT OF THE YEAR!

- 100 power-packed pages bursting with color!
- Achievement '95 award winners in 11 important categories!
- Your own "Unofficial/Official Awards" for 1995!
- The wild and wacky "1995: The Year In Review"
- An extensive collection of "PWI SuperStats"
- Special year-end columns and features

The incredible 100-page super-spectacular year-end collector's edition of Pro Wrestling Illustrated is cover-dated March 1996 and goes on sale January 2, 1996. It's sure to be a newsstand sellout, so get yours early!

### NAMES MA

ERE'S A STORY you probably haven't heard about: Marty Jannetty actually went to interim WWF President Gorilla Monsoon on the evening of October 22 and offered to defend the Intercontinental



belt for Shawn Michaels so Shawn wouldn't have to forfeit the title because of his injuries. I'm told that Michaels gave Jannetty the okay to discuss it with Monsoon but that Monsoon already had his mind made up. "I felt awful for Shawn," Jannetty said. "He's worked so hard for so long to get to this, the apex of his career. What a sin, to have to give the belt to an undeserving punk like Dean Douglas. It's nice that Razor Ramon was able to win it from Douglas that same night. But that doesn't do much form Shawn."

No, it doesn't. Monsoon really dropped the ball on this one!

Big Van Vader has officially severed all ties with World Championship Wrestling and is now free to negotiate with other organizations. After being suspended from WCW for his role in a locker room brawl with Paul Orndorff, Vader has left WCW and decided to take some time off. He has started dis-

cussing contracts with a few Japanese promoters. Could a stint in the WWF be a possibility for Vader?

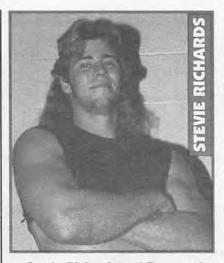
"The WWF title. Yes! Vader as champion, I can see it now!" he told me. "Breaking bodies in the WWF sounds like fun to me. First I'll conquer Japan, and then maybe the WWF. I like the idea!" Knowing how much Vader likes to hurt people, I think he should sign with ECW. He can break bones to his heart's content there and not even worry about getting fined!

Congratulations to Shohei "Giant" Baba and Antonio Inoki, who both



celebrated their 35th anniversary in wrestling in September ... New Smoky Mountain heavyweight champion Terry Gordy has challenged USWA heavyweight champion Jerry Lawler to a title vs. title match. Lawler has shrugged off the challenge, saying, "If I win that belt, the fans here in Memphis would probably lynch me. They don't want any stinkin' stench from SMW coming this way. They don't want me carrying around that worthless piece of tin!"

The Black Assassin is the new All-State Wrestling heavyweight champion; he beat Billy Orderly for the belt



... Stevie Richards and Raven, who do most of their wrestling in ECW rings, have been appearing on many of Pittsburgh's Steel City Wrestling cards lately. Both say they are after the heavyweight title, which is currently held by Johnny Gunn.

Arn Anderson has been bragging about "how easily I defeated Col. Robert Parker's toughest guy, Kurasawa." Parker is furious that his man lost because of what appeared to be a carefully planned scheme. While Kurasawa had the edge, Brian Pillman came to the ring and distracted referee Randy Anderson. And while Randy Anderson's back was turned, Chris Benoit ran in and DDT'd Kurasawa. Arn followed that up with his own DDT and was on top of Kurasawa when the referee turned around.

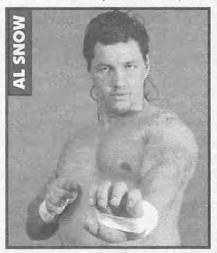
New Japan Pro Wrestling is sending some of its top stars to compete at WCW's Starrcade this year. Already slated to appear are "Power Warrior" Kensuke Sasaki, Jushin Liger, and The Great Muta ... After losing the WWF World Women's title to Alundra Blayze on October 23, Bertha Faye refused to talk to boyfriend/manager Harvey Wippleman for almost two

### KIN' NEWS

By Bill Apter

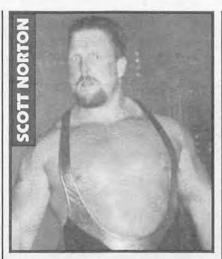
weeks. She blamed Harvey's backfiring interference for the loss. "My intentions were to help, not hinder," Wippleman said. "I'm so sorry, my darling Bertha!" The lovely couple seems to have worked out this problem, and they're dating again. How wonderful.

Avatar, a.k.a. Al Snow, has made his WWF debut. Avatar is a Hindu word meaning something to the effect of a god or messiah that comes down to earth. "I certainly fit that description,"



Snow told me. Obviously the word "humble" is not part of Snow's vocabulary ... Veteran wrestler/manager Johnny Valiant is telling us to keep our eyes on a man he has had a hand in training. The man's name is B.A. Briggs, and he's already the champion of a new federation, Pro Wrestling Express. "A definite superstar in the making," Valiant boasted. The numberone contender to Briggs' title is a guy named Vince Charming.

Kevin Sullivan and his entire Dungeon of Doom don't appear to be too worried about Hulk Hogan, but they are concerned about Scott "Flash" Norton. Norton viciously attacked Shark in a dressing room back in October. Remember that it was

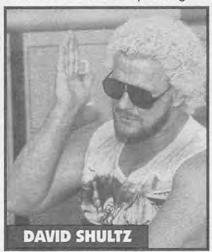


Shark's interference that inadvertently cost Norton a match against Randy Savage back in September. "I wanted to kick his fat butt that night, but I just left the building, and the next day headed for a tour of the Orient," explained Norton. "By the way, if anyone else in that Dungeon wants a piece of me, come and take your best shot, boys!"

Teddy Long admitted that it will be "a long, hard road," but he intends to help veteran Joey Maggs get his first victory in WCW. Long has been unofficially managing Maggs for a few months now ... Curt Hennig is slated to do some broadcasting for the AWF in the next few months ... Dick Murdoch is still trying to get a clean win over Mr. Wrestling III in Texas rings. The masked Wrestling III was disqualified in four recent matches against Murdoch.

"Jungle" Jim McPherson won the WWA heavyweight belt in a three-way match in October; he beat both champion Chris "The Edge" Evans and Ed Atlas ... Bobo Brazil Jr. has signed for a series of matches in Smoky Mountain Wrestling ... ABC-TV newsman John Stossel finally revealed the amount of money he received as a set-

tlement for his lawsuit against the WWF, stemming from an incident in which he was attacked by wrestler **David Shultz** during a 1985 investigation of the WWF on the news magazine show 20-20. Speaking on



Howard Stern's radio show in October, Stossel said he received \$280,000 for injuries he sustained when both of his ears were cuffed by "Dr. D." Interesting, wasn't it Stossel who devoted an entire one-hour show to the proliferation of frivolous lawsuits in the United States?

I've heard that Mabel and Yokozuna came out of their October 22 In Your House match with even more respect for each other than they had before. As a matter of fact, Jim Cornette, who manages Yoko, told me Yoko and Mabel both want a rematch. "They both said they were the toughest opponent each other ever had," said Cornette. "The problem with a rematch, though, is that the ring almost broke the first time, and I can't find one promoter who will let them fight in a ring in their arena. They're all afraid the ring will be ruined! I don't know what to do!"

That's all for now. I'll see you at the matches!

HAT THE HECK were you doing with my wife?"

The thunderous voice virtually assaulted me from behind. Fortunately, there wasn't a physical impact to go with it. I knew the identity of its owner immediately. I had heard it too many times before. screaming things like, "Whoooooo!" and "Get used to it ..."

At first, a shiver ran down my spine. This wouldn't have been the first time I landed on the wrong side



With Dave Lenker



Ric Flair and his wife, Beth, are a very close couple, but even she apparently had the back of a stretch limousine, headno idea her husband was cooking up an elaborate scheme to humiliate Sting.

of a wrestler, and I'm sure it won't be the last. But it would've been the first time I found myself in a wrestler's bad graces because of his wife.

Fortunately again, I turned around and saw Ric Flair smiling that million-dollar smile with those million-dollar teeth.

"Hey, buddy," he said. "How'd Beth treat you?"

Flair was referring to his wife, Beth, and my meeting with her last month, which became the subject of my first "On The Road" column. In it, Mrs. Flair confided that her husband was torn apart over his separation with former best friend Arn Anderson and was hoping for a reconciliation. Flair told me he had not read the column, but he obviously knew of the interview through his wife.

"Don't believe everything she tells you," Flair said. "I don't tell her everything, and I don't expect her to tell me everything. There's been a lot going on in my life, and not all of it has to do with 'Double-A."

He paused for effect, then said the words that would have much more meaning about three hours later.

"But a lot of it does," he said.

Later in the evening, I was sitting five rows back at ringside with the other reporters-including Matt Brock and a few scribes from Japan there to see Sabu and Kurasawa-when the announcement was made that Flair had been injured and Sting might have to wrestle on his own against Brian Pillman and Arn Anderson, It was a shock. I turned to Brock.

"That's funny," I said. "I just saw him a few hours ago. He seemed fine."

Brock looked at me, and I looked at him. The funny-looking Japanese guy three seats down probably didn't know what we were talking about.

About 15 minutes later, Ric Flair came down the aisle, looking like a healthy man. A few minutes after that happened, he tagged in and joined Pillman and Anderson in an attack on Stina.

About 30 minutes later. The Four Horsemen were back togetherminus one Horseman, though I have it on good authority that it would be Chris Benoit-and Flair was carrying on about "the best there ever was and the best there ever will be."

And two hours later, I was sitting in ing with Flair, Anderson, and Pillman

to The Four Horsemen reunion party.

As it turned out, we were the only men in the room. The invited guests included a lot of beautiful blondes with big hair and skimpy party dresses. The refreshments included champagne, caviar, and, much to my surprise, chicken wings.

"Pillman likes 'em," Flair explained.

Placed into this situation, most people, even reporters, would probably loosen up, relax, and have a good time. But curiosity got the best of me.

I sidled up to the only brunette at the bar and asked her the only question on my mind.

"So, when did you get invited to this party?" I asked her.

She looked at me as if I had two heads, maybe because I was the first man all night to not ask her up to my room. I probably was, but, heck, journalistic

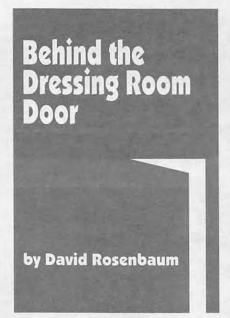
(Continued on page 58)

# COMBINE SAVE

By taking advantage of our special combination offers, you can have all of the world's leading wrestling magazines delivered to your door and save up to 30% off the regular newsstand price!



CO	MBIN	E & SAVE	ONE-YI	EAR SUBS	CRIPTION	TWO-Y	EAR SUB	SCRIPTION
		Magazines	# of Issues	U.S. Price	Canada/ Foreign	# of Issues	U.S. Price	Canada/ Foreign
DISCOU	NT COMBINA	TION OFFER (SAVE 2	25%!)					
□ New	☐ Renewal	THE WRESTLER INSIDE WRESTLING	26 (13 each title)		☐ \$75.55 (\$119.75 airmail)		□ \$109.50 )	\$151.10 (\$239.50 airmail)
SUPER	SAVER COME	INATION OFFER (SAI	VE 30%!)	- A70 00	E 6107.10	70	- #4F0 00	□ #04.4.00
□ New	☐ Renewal	PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRAT THE WRESTLER INSIDE WRESTLING	(13 each title)		☐ \$107.10 (\$177.30 airmail)	78 (26 each title		\$214.20 (\$354.60 airmail)
above. I ha	ive enclosed a che	nbination subscription I have clock or money order for paymenter to charge my purchase.		P	ONDON PUB .O. Box 910 t. Washingto			
Please indica	te method of payment:							
☐ Check	or money order (	enclosed and payable to LONDON PUBLIS		vame				
□ VISA	☐ MasterCard	Expiration Date:	D/YR /	Address				
Card No.:				City		Sta	ite 2	Zip
Signature			-	or orders outsi	de the U.S., internative weeks before you	ational money		unds only. Please



URN, BABY, BURN.
Ah, the memories come rushing back. He is dressed in black polyester pants and a red Huck-a-Poo shirt opened to the navel. Walking down Flatbush Avenue in Brooklyn carrying two cans of paint, he checks out every woman who walks by. A darkhaired Latino gives him the cold shoulder. He responds by questioning her species. The neighborhood pizza shop is irresistible, and he wolves down two slices of pizza, one on top of the other.

Night fever. Night fever.

He eyes a colorful shirt in the window of a men's clothing store and decides he has to have it. He hands over a deposit and refuses to take a receipt.

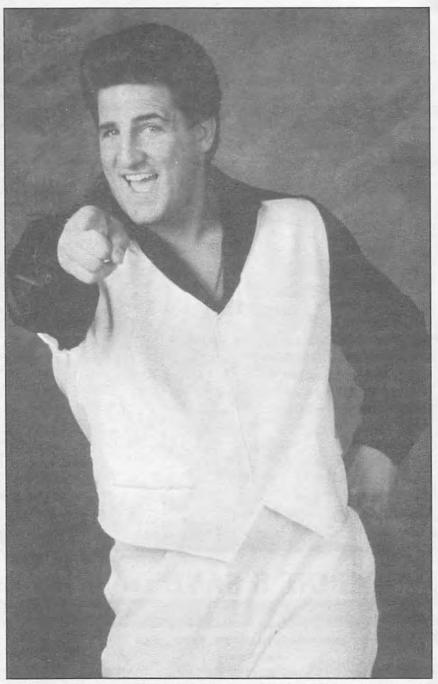
"Don't trust me, please!" the proprietor screams out. But Tony Marino has the night on his mind.

The year was 1978. The movie was Saturday Night Fever.

Now the year is 1996. Now the man is Disco Inferno.

Gets his butt kicked on a regular basis, but doesn't care ... as long as his hair is in place.

"Don't touch the hair!" Tony Marino snapped at his father. "I spent a lot of time on my hair!"



Meet Dave Rosenbaum's new favorite wrestler: Disco Inferno. If you're saying this guy looks like an extra from Saturday Night Fever, well, he'd probably say thanks.

Disco Inferno can step into the ring at a WCW pay-per-view, lose horrendously in front of a huge national audience, and not give a damn, because the night awaits him. It's so strange. Minutes after every loss, he seems to forget that it ever happened. He thinks he has a splendid win-loss record.

"The music is with me," Inferno told me after a recent match. "They

can push me around in the ring, but as long as they don't mess with my hair or my music, everything's all right with the world."

I asked him if he ever saw Saturday Night Fever.

"About 300 times," he responded. "It's a classic. The single greatest movie ever made, don't you think? I have three copies on

(Continued on page 59)

R7 Video presents... The blood, guts, gore collection featuring the wildest matches from IWA, the most violent wrestling promotion in the world. "Too violent for TV", these tapes have tons of glass matches - barbed wire matches - exploding matches - fire matches - thumbtack matches - spike nail match - cage match, and every other sick match you can think of.



### O IWA TAPE #1 (8/20/95) -KAWASAKI DREAM "KING OF DEATH" MATCH TOURNAMENT

This is a very violent, bloody, graphic, and, at times, sick tape. Tons of blood and brawls over 2 hours. 1. Tiger Jeet Singh vs. Mr. Gannosuke (BARBED WIRE BARRICADE MATCH); 2. Terry Funk vs. Leatherface (BARBED WIRE BARRICADE MATCH); 3. Catctus Jack vs. Terry Gordy (BARBED WIRE, BASEBALL BAT, THUMBTACK MATCH). Cactus gets slammed into thumbtacks - sick and bloody; 4. Nakamaki vs. Ono (BARBED WIRE, BASE-BALL BAT, THUMBTACK MATCH). Bloodbath and Ono gets thumbtacks in his head must be seen; 5. Terry Funk vs. Tiger Jeet Singh (GLASS, BARBED WIRE, BARRICADE MATCH); 6. Cactus Jack vs. Nakamaki (BED OF NAILS MATCH). Sick and bloody; 7. Headhunters vs. Silver King - Texano; 8. Dan Severn vs. Tarzen GoTo (NWA Title Match); 9. Terry Funk vs. Catctus Jack (NO ROPE, ELECTRIFIED BARBED WIRE BARRICADE EXPLOSION MATCH); and more matches. This show has matches where people get thumbtacks stuck in their head, wrestlers receive bad burns and a combined stitch count of over 500 111111111

### O IWA TAPE #2 (3/7/95) IWA THUMB-TACK DEATH MATCH TAPE

Bloody, bloody, bloody. 1. Crypt Keeper vs. Yamada; 2. Silver King+Texano vs. Okano+Tajiri; 3. Headhunters vs. Kendo Nagasaki+Iceman (BARBED WIRE THUMB-TACK DEATH MATCH); 4. Catctus | IWA TAPE #6 (11/13/94) Jack+Leatherface vs. Nakamaki+Ono (NO ROPE BARBED WIRE THUMBTACK DEATH MATCH - THIS IS THE 1ST THUMBTACK MATCH EVER!) Leatherface uses a chainsaw -bloody!!!! Plus more matches from IWA.

### WA TAPE #3 (4/3/95) IWA BRICK DEATH MATCH

Wild brawls with blood. 1. Headhunters vs. Terry Funk+Ono (HEADHUNTERS TURN ON EACH OTHER); 2. Abdullah the Nakamaki+Leatherface vs. Cactus Jack+Cryptkeeper (NO ROPE, BARBED WIRE WITH PILES OF BRICKS WRAPPED IN BARBED WIRE SURROUNDING THE RING MATCH). Bloody; 3. Iceman+Matsuda vs. Taue+Yamada; 4. Sugawara vs. Togai; 5. Okano vs. Tajiri.

### O IWA TAPE #4 (5/1/95) HEADHUNTERS BROTHERS GLASS DEATH MATCH

1. Headhunter Avs. Headhunter B (GLASS AROUND THE RING MATCH). They stab each other with the glass, bloody; 2. Nakamaki VS. Crypt Keeper (BARBED WIRE LADDER MATCH) FMW+War Wrestlers interfere; 3. Leatherface vs. Ono; 4. Taue vs. Togai; 5. Boragail vs. Yamada; 6. 6-Man with Silver King+Texano +Superastro +Araya Plus More.

### O IWA TAPE #5 (11/17/94) TEXAS BRONCO NEW COMING

Bloody Flesh!!!!!!!!1. Terry Funk vs. Leatherface (STEEL CAGE DEATH MATCH); 2. Headhunters vs. Dick Slater+Araya; 3. Shouji Nakamaki vs. Hiroshi Ono (BARBED WIRE CHAIN MATCH); 4. Silver > King+El Texano vs. Miguel Perez, Jr.+Super Astro; 5. Super Astro vs. Okano.



### FIRE ON EARTH

Hot Fire Match!!!!!! 1. Terry Funk+Hiroshi Ono vs. Nakamaki +Araya (BARBED WIRE FIRE MATCH); 2. Miquel Perez vs. Leatherface (BARBED)

WIRE BASEBALL BAT MATCH); 3. Headhunters vs. Silver King+El Texano: 4. Dick Slater vs. Johnny Gomez; 5. Super Astro vs. Okano.

### WA TAPE #7 (10/16/94) IWA GRAVEYARD

Crazy Matches!!!!! 1. Headhunters vs. Nakamaki+Ono (THE ORIGINAL GLASS DEATH MATCH): 2. Brian Christopher +Dark Patriot vs. Dick Slater+Arava; 3. Leatherface vs. Crash the Terminator (BARBED WIRE BASEBALL MATCH); 4. Gran Apache vs. Okano; 5. Gran Apache vs. Tajiri.



### IWA TAPE #8 (12/13/94) HELL DEATH MATCH

Sick and Wild!!! 1. Nakamaki+Ono vs. Leatherface+Original Leatherface (SPIKE NAIL HELL MATCH); 2. Kendo Nagasaki vs. Araya; 3. Johnny Gomez vs. Dick Murdoch; 4. Miquel Perez, Jr. +Jiraiya vs. Okano+Ajuila Negra; 5. Tajiri vs. Taue.

### ) IWA TAPE #9 (1/8/95) **DUEL OF THE WILDS**

Bloody. 1. Terry Funk vs. Cactus Jack (NO ROPE, BARBED WIRE DEATH MATCH); 2. Araya vs. Tracy Smothers; 3. Nakamaki+Ono vs. Texas Hangmen (BARBED WIRE, BASEBALL BAT, BUNKHOUSE MATCH); 4. Jiraiya vs. Tajiri; 5. Ajuila Negra vs. Taue.

Send checks or money order for \$20.00 + \$3.00 S & H per tape to: RF Video P.O. Box 797 Langhorne, PA 19047 (215) 752-4279 Canada-US Funds Orders Only

These tapes are a must for people who like wild, bloody brawls !!!!!!!!!!!! Due to the graphic violence parental guidance suggested.



(The opinions expressed in "The Insider" are those of Eddie Ellner alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of anyone else on the staff of this magazine.)

always imagined Hogan kept Hart around for comic relief. "I trust Jimmy Hart as far as I could throw him," Hogan often said in years past, but you never knew what to one with as much to lose as the "Hulkster" would ever let his guard completely down against a man of Hart's dubious reputation.

What people forget is how insufferably loyal Hulk Hogan is. It's part of his appeal, the basic tenet of "Hulkamania." No matter how often he's smacked in the face by a friend, he will always turn the other cheek and give the benefit of the doubt.

Maybe now he has learned his lesson. Then again, maybe not. "Jimmy Hart made the wrong

ALLOWEEN HAVOC PLAYED havoc with careers, promotions, and the best-laid plans of mice and wrestling promoters (of which there is usually not much difference). But what it did more than ever is restore pro wrestling to its natural condition—one of chaos.

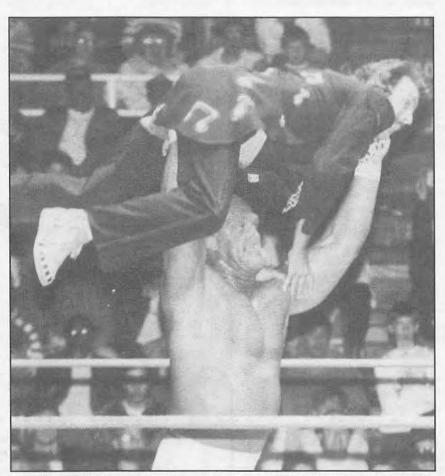
### **NEWS ITEM: Stars in alignment**

I checked with famed astrologer Chakra Von Raye, who confirmed what many wrestlers told me they suspected. "Mercury was in retrograde," she said, "which accounts for the unusual number of strange accidents and misguided relationships over the past several months. Now that Neptune is out from Jupiter's house, we should experience a period of relative calm."

As far as I can tell, Von Raye is right on the money. Read on.

#### NEWS ITEM: Hart attack

Is there a wrestling fan among us who trusted Jimmy Hart? That squeaky voice ... the impish frame ... the silly beard. The whining soprano was born to lie, cheat, and steal. So what was he doing with Hulk Hogan? Or better yet, what was Hogan doing with him? I



Jimmy Hart, you might get bodyslammed by Hulk Hogan a few times in the coming months, but trust me, it will all be worth it. How could the man be stupid enough to think you were his friend?

make of that statement, since Hogan could spiral Hart downfield about 60 yards.

One got the impression that Hogan had insulated himself from any possible Hart wrongdoing. No decision," Hogan told tell me after the Hart-engineered attack on him at the end of Halloween Havoc. "But that's not going to shatter my faith in human beings. Jimmy Hart (Continued on page 60) GET ALL THE NEWS-FAST & FIRST! SUBSCRIBE TODAY TO THE NEW...

# PROJECTION OF THE PROPERTY OF

So many of you have written to tell us that you'd love to subscribe to *Pro Wrestling Illustrated Weekly*, but that it was a bit too costly. Well, we've responded to your input, changed the format just a bit, and have cut the price by just about a third!

WE'VE CUT THE PRICE, BUT NOT THE INFORMATION! WOW! SAVE UP TO 50%!

#### STILL PACKED WITH INFORMATION!

Each weekly issue still contains the latest news and gossip, a calendar of upcoming cards, ratings, transactions, and a comprehensive compilation of match results! You get all this—each and every week!—in a format that keeps you on top of today's wrestling news today!

### FIRST WITH THE NEWS!

New efforts have been made to get *PWI Weekly* to you earlier than ever so all the news is as fresh as can be. With the exception of holidays, *PWI Weekly* will be placed in the U.S. mail for first-class delivery each Wednesday morning, so you'll be the first to know about the title changes, the big match signings, the major controversies, and the triumphs and tragedies that occurred throughout the wrestling world that previous week.

### STILL NOT SURE?

Want to try a sample issue of *PWI Weekly*? No problem! Just send us \$1.95 and we'll send you a copy of *PWI Weekly* hot off the press! We're certain that once you see all the news, features, and information packed into our newsletter, you'll want to become a subscriber. (Sorry, no credit cards accepted for single-issue orders.)

#### SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

PWI Weekly is cover-priced at \$1.95 per issue, and we offer you three big ways to save:

- 17 weekly issues for just \$19.99, a 40% savings off the cover price
- . 34 weekly issues for just \$34.99, a 45% savings off the cover price
- . 52 weekly issues for just \$49.99, a 50% savings off the cover price

PROPERIOR LEAVES WIWE, SAYS HE WON'T RETURN

INCIDIOUS & ANDERSON INJURED IN HOTEL BRAWL

INJURED IN HOTEL BRAWL

INJURED IN HOTEL BRAWL

INJURED IN HOTEL B

Send to: London Publishing Co.	□NEW	<b>YES!</b> I want to be the first with all the news! Please send me a subscription to <i>PWI Weekly</i> as follows:			
P.O. Box 910 Fort Washington, PA 19034	RENEWAL	☐ 17 issues for just \$19.99, a 40% savings!			
Tort masnington, 1 A 15004		34 issues for just \$34.99, a 45% savings!			
Please indicate method of payment:		52 issues for just \$49.99, a 50% savings!			
☐ Check or money order (enclosed and payable to London Publishing Co.)			sample copy before I subscribe. e find a check or money order for \$1.95		
□ VISA		NAME			
☐ MasterCard Card number:		ADDRESS	APT		
Expiration date:/ MO/YR			STATE ZIP		

in U.S. funds only. Please allow up to 8 weeks for subscriptions to start.

3835/06-95

## Assignment

DDIE ELLNER IS not the only one around here who receives mail and has to deal with people without much going on upstairs. I mean the letter-writers not having much upstairs, not me. Well, you'll figure it out after wading through this stack. Some of the letters that pass my desk could detonate thousands of stupidthought bombs. I'd like to share the best-and the worst-ones with you. The worst ones, I'm sure, come from the people who think Ellner is the messiah god. Thank heaven there aren't too many of them in this crazy world.

Dear Liz Hunter.

Is Bret Hart single? Can you pass him along this note?

**DEVONA SPARROW** Athens, GA

#### Dear Devona.

I read that note, Devona, and you're lucky I don't report you for transporting pornomail. I could pass the note on to Ellner, however, if you like.

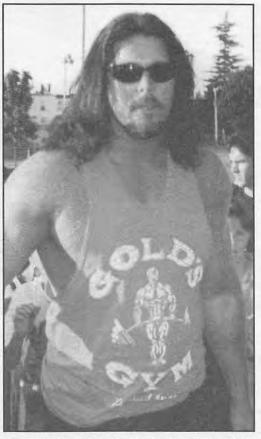
Dear Liz,

When you do those locker room interviews, have you ever seen Diesel naked? Is it hard to keep your concentration?

JULIE MORROW Sacramento, CA

Dear Julie,

The glamour and thrills you associate with interviewing naked men could not be more inappropriate. Let me tell you from first-hand experience that it is the most unpleasant aspect of this job. While most wres-



Diesel is one of the many men Liz Hunter has interviewed inside a locker room. Some have been quite rude to her, but "Big Daddy Cool," she graphic material through the reports, has always been a perfect gentleman.

tlers are polite, many aren't; some feel I'm an intruder and act accordingly. Diesel happens to be a gentleman inside the locker room-which means I have never seen him naked.

Dear Liz.

I heard [name deleted] and his wife were having marital problems. Do you have his address?

LINDA BOLTEN Baton Rouge, LA

Dear Linda.

These letters are representative of the ones I get begging and pleading for intimate infor-

mation about wrestlers. I must say the majority of female letter-writers are more interested in availability and dating patterns than they are with ring facts and information. Message to promoters: There's no end to the number of raging hormones out there to be exploited. I have deleted the name of the couple in question to prevent false rumors from starting, but I can say without question that they are not having marital problems, and if they were, it would be neither your nor my concern.

Dear Liz Hunter.

If you weren't a writer, what would you be?

> CONNIE SISLER St. Louis, MO

Dear Connie.

I'd be a promoter and exploit the endless supply of raging hormones. Or I'd have Bill Clinton's job. Just kidding-on both accounts.

Dear Liz.

Since you started writing professionally, what was the most difficult assignment you've ever had?

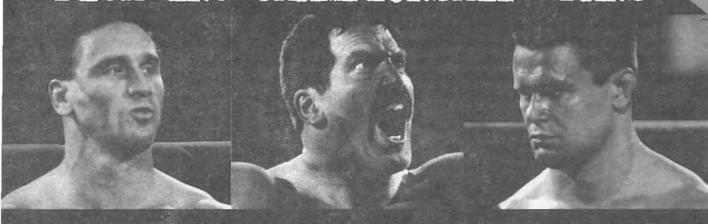
> BART CLEMENTS San Diego, CA

Dear Bart.

Easy question. Interviewing Nikita Koloff after the death of his wife, Mandy. I was friendly with them both. It was the only time in my career I could not be objective. Not that I wanted to be. The hardest part is keeping

(Continued on page 62)

# ATTENTION! ULTIMATE FIGHTING CHAMPIONSHIP™ FANS



Introducing The

### UFC FIGHTLINE

Hosted by the UFC Noice of the Beck

In the U.S. Call:

In Canada Call:

1-900-451-3438

In UK Call:

0891-299-755

CALL the UFC Fightline TODAY and get the latest updates on the toughest, most electrifying mixed martial arts event in the world—The Ultimate Fighting Championship!

**HEAR** the inside scoop from the masters of the Octagon, including Dan Severn, Ken Shamrock, Dave Benetau, Oleg Taktarov and more.

TEST your UFC knowledge.

**ENTER** the UFC trivia game and win valuable prizes. **VOTE** for who you think will win the next UFC Superfight.

All this and more on the official UFC Fightline, because you asked for it!

If It's Not In The Octagon...It's NOT Real!

### CALL NOW



This service is available for both touch tone and rotary-dial phones. \$1.99 per minute (USA) \$2.49 per minute (Canada) 39p Cheap Rate, 49p Peak Rate, including VAT (UK)

Sponsored by SEG Sports Corp., New York, NY Kids under 18 must get parents' permission before calling.



## CAPSULE PROFILE

### **TERRY FUNK**

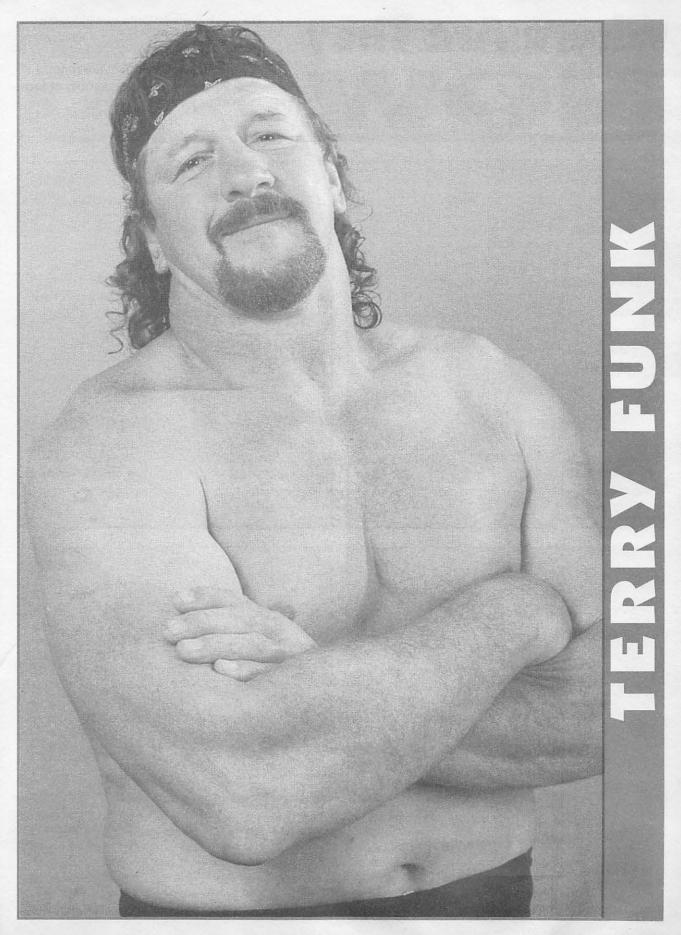
O YOU THINK a 51-yearold man has any business competing in wrestling today? You can probably guess what Terry Funk's answer would be. He is still one of the most dangerous and violent mercenaries in the sport, even though he has passed the half-century mark in age ... Merciless 6'3", 247-pound Texan may be best known for his brutal tactics and branding iron, but he is also an accomplished allaround wrestler who has held numerous championships during his 30-year pro career ... The son of Dory Funk Sr. and brother of Dory Jr., Terry made his pro debut in December 1965 in Amarillo, Texas, wrestling Sputnik Monroe to a draw ("Seems like a lifetime ago") ... Spent the first few years of his career in Florida, Texas, Missouri, and Los Angeles, winning several regional titles ... In 1975, he pinned Jack Brisco with an inside cradle to win the NWA World title. He went on to defend the title more than 310 times in the next 14 months before he lost it to Harley Race in February 1977 ("I'd like to see Hogan or Diesel do that") ... Has wrestled all over the world and has won titles in almost every area ("That would make me the toughest man on the planet!") ... Has teamed with Dory Jr. on occasion in both Japan and the United States ... Besides his vast wrestling accomplishments, he has also conquered Hollywood ... Starred in Paradise Alley in 1977 with Sylvester Stallone ... Also

appeared in movies such as Over The Top, Rambo III, and Roadhouse ... TV credits include Quantum Leap, Good And Evil, Thunder In Paradise, and Swamp Thing ... Starred in the western Wildside ... Still extremely popular in Japan ... Speaking of extreme, he also frequents Extreme Championship Wrestling, where he has held both the heavyweight and TV belts ... Has also appeared in SMW, the USWA, WCW, and numerous other federations during the last few years ... Had major feuds with Eddie Gilbert, The Sheik, Dusty Rhodes, Abdullah the Butcher, Sabu, Ric Flair, Cactus Jack, and Atsushi Onita, just to name a few ("You ain't nobody if you haven't feuded with me!") ... His battles with Sabu

have been some of the most exciting matches fans in the United States have seen in recent years ... Used his flaming branding iron to leave his mark (literally!) on Cactus Jack during an ECW match last year ("He squirmed too much, so the brand didn't come out perfect, but he got the point!") ... Has been helping Tommy Dreamer in his battles with Cactus and Raven ("Anything I can do to help get rid of Cactus Jerk, I'd be happy to do") ... Now in the twilight of his career, Funk is reportedly contemplating retirement ("Hell, I don't know-I might never quit!") ... No matter what he accomplishes from here on, he will undoubtedly go down as one of the most violent, feared, and respected wrestlers of all-time.



Terry Funk belts Cactus Jack with a metal folding chair during an ECW match. Funk may be 51 years old, but he can still hold his own in brawls with just about anyone.



19

# Where Are They NOVEMBER

Do you have a favorite wrestler who has left your area? Are you wondering where he is today? Then this special column is just for you. Each month we will update the whereabouts of four current or former wrestlers



### JUNKYARD DOG

Junkyard, a 16-year veteran, still wrestles occasionally on the independent circuit, primarily in Las Vegas for the National Wrestling Conference. When he's not wrestling, JYD, who makes his home in Palm Springs, California, can often be seen

making appearances in department stores, video stores, and at collectibles conventions signing autographs for his fans. "It's all about the fans," he said. "If you lose touch with your fans, you might as well quit."



### TULLY

After making a brief comeback in ECW and other independents early in 1995, Blanchard decided to retire from the mat sport yet again. However, he got the wrestling itch again in October and met with and signed contracts with Jap-

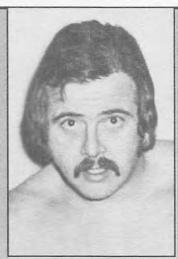
anese promoters for a series of matches. One question he gets a lot these days is will he join Ric Flair and The Four Horsemen back in WCW? "No way," he said. "The Four Horsemen are behind me. I'm moving on to new challenges."



### **FRED CURRY**

The son of the legendary "Wild" Bull Curry, Fred Curry has been retired from the sport since the early-'80s. He wrestled mainly in Detroit and Toronto and became a well-known star in both cities. He is remembered best for his aerial moves that earned him the

nickname "Flyin" Fred. Today, Curry owns several businesses in Ohio and has no connection to wrestling. "Wrestling was my life for so long," he said. "I just felt the need to go in a different direction."



### BRUCE SWAYSZE

The man who gained fame as the manager of the Love brothers, Reginald and Hartford, back in the 1970s now owns a plastics and rubber company in Ohio. Swaysze, who was recently spotted at a boxing show in Atlantic City, has a

financial stake in the careers of several boxers. "I still follow wrestling closely," he said. "But I've always had a thing for boxing. I knew great wrestling talent when I saw it. I think I can say the same about boxing."



# WRESTLING ALMANAC!

THIS DIGEST-SIZED CHUNK OF HISTORY HAS IT ALL!
WE'RE TALKING 196 PAGES OF REFERENCE MATERIAL
EVERY WRESTLING FAN'S GOTTA HAVE!

- A year-by-year history of wrestling!
- Candid profiles of 50 top stars!
- Comprehensive title histories of the sport's top championships-active and inactive!
- Statistics for hundreds of wrestlers worldwide!
- Results of every pay-per-view card ever!
- A comprehensive directory of promotional organizations!
- Analysis of the 10 biggest news stories of 1995!
- A look ahead to 1996!
- And much, much, much more!

### IT'S THE ULTIMATE WRESTLING PUBLICATION!

THE DATE: JANUARY 16, 1996

THE PLACE: NEWSSTANDS EVERYWHERE

THE BOTTOM LINE: PREPARE TO GET BLOWN AWAY!

4130/10-95

### NEWS FROM THE

### KIEL, GERMANY BY JOHN KROLL



VS. YOKOZUNA



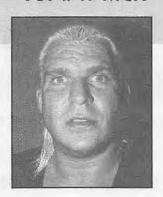
Not only did Diesel pin Yokozuna in the match, but he also turned back an attack from Owen Hart. After the two big men locked up, Diesel gained a slight advantage when he railed the big Samoan with a series of punches. Diesel then knocked Yokozuna to the mat with a punishing clothesline. Yoko wasn't too stunned, though, and managed to duck another Diesel punch. Yoko then clamped a nervehold on Diesel's neck for several minutes. A few minutes later, he tried for his "banzai" splash, but Diesel moved out of his way, then covered him for the pin. After the match, Hart ran into the ring and attacked Diesel, but the WWF World champ used a "jackknife" power bomb on him.

OTHER BOUTS: Bam Bam Bigelow pinned Sid Vicious ... Razor Ramon beat Dean Douglas by disqualification ... Waylon Mercy beat Bob Holly ... Owen Hart defeated Fatu ... Hunter Hearst Helmsley pinned Henry Godwinn ... Jean-Pierre Lafitte pinned Aldo Montoya ... Man Mountain Rock pinned Rad Radford.

KNOXVILLE, TN BY FRANK MILLER



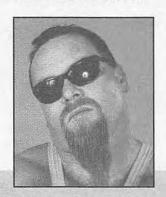
BUDDY LANDELL VS. TOMMY RICH



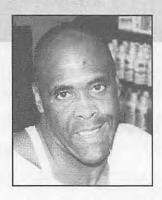
The feud between Rich and Landell heated up even more when the former allies squared off in a chain match. Landell had the crowd strongly behind him, but he couldn't get help from anyone in the ring. Both wrestlers beat each other with the chain until they were bleeding profusely. Jim Cornette, Landell's former manager, tried to interfere on Rich's behalf, but referee Mark Curtis slugged him. As Cornette and Curtis battled, The Punisher entered the ring and hit Landell with a blackjack. Rich then dragged an unconscious Landell to all four corners of the ring for the win. Landell was left lying in the ring for several minutes.

OTHER BOUTS: Terry Gordy & Headbanger Thrasher beat Brad Armstrong & The Wolfman ... SMW tag team champions The Heavenly Bodies defeated Tracey Smothers & Tony Anthony in a street fight ... Robert Gibson defeated The Punisher by disqualification ... Chris Michaels defeated Headbanger Mosh.

LAS VEGAS, NV BY MIKE WERNER



JIM NEIDHART VS. VIRGIL



The main event was of this National Wrestling Conference card was scheduled to be a match between Neidhart and The Ultimate Warrior, but promoter T.C. Martin announced to the crowd that Warrior and Neidhart had gotten into an argument earlier in the day and that Warrior had apparently left town. Neidhart was jumped by Virgil in the ring, and an impromptu match began. The two started brawling before the bell rang and never stopped. There were plenty of kicks, punches, and clotheslines. Finally, the referee, realizing he never really had control, disqualified both men after only two minutes of action.

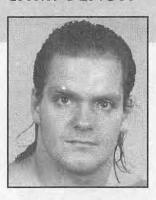
OTHER BOUTS: The Honky Tonk Man wrestled Koko B. Ware to a double-countout ... Bobby Bradley & Zuma beat Lil Haystacks & Don Juan ... The Navajo Kid beat The Dirtbike Kid ... The Irish Assassin beat Earthquake Ferris ... Silver Wings beat Johnny Paine by disqualification ... Superboy & Prince Hindu beat Blackhawk & Kerry Love.

### WRESTLING CAPITALS

### ATLANTA, GA BY ANNA THOMPSON



EDDY GUERRERO VS. CHRIS BENOIT



The two high-flying superstars renewed an old ECW rivalry in what turned out to be an awesome match. The pace was fast and furious throughout, which is not unusual for these two. Both men used a wide array of terrific holds and counterholds and got several two-counts each. After both tried moves from the top rope, Benoit nailed Guerrero with a devastating belly-to-back suplex from the top rope, but the impact of the fall knocked out both men. The referee counted to five, but neither man responded, so the match was declared a no-contest and trainers were called out to tend to both.

OTHER BOUTS: Johnny B. Badd defeated Paul Orndorff by countout ... Chris Kanyon beat Disco Inferno ... Steve Armstrong defeated Big Bubba Rogers by disqualification ... Marcus Alexander Bagwell & Scotty Riggs beat The Barrio Brothers ... Lex Luger defeated The Gambler ... V.K. Wall Street beat Eddie Jackie.

### PHILADELPHIA, PA BY KAREN COLES



2 COLD SCORPIO VS. ROCCO ROCK



Two titles were on the line in this matchup of moonsault experts. Scorpio agreed to put his ECW TV title up for grabs, provided he would get the tag team title, which was held by Rock and Johnny Grunge, if he won the bout. Both men executed their share of aerial moves, but there was also a surprising amount of brawling. Rock definitely got the best of Scorpio when they exchanged punches. But since Scorpio did end up pinning Rock, he won the tag team championship, and he picked The Sandman to be the co-holder of the title with him.

OTHER BOUTS: Axl Rotten pinned Dudley
Dudley ... The Pit Bulls beat Tony Stetson & Donn
E. Allen ... The Eliminators beat Scott Steiner &
Taz ... Rey Misterio Jr. & Konnan beat Psicosis &
La Parka by countout ... Johnny Grunge beat
Stevie Richards ... Mikey Whipwreck pinned ECW
champion The Sandman to win the title ... Hack
Myers beat Dances With Dudley ... Tommy
Dreamer pinned Cactus Jack.

### WINNIPEG, MANITOBA BY GERALD LINDEN

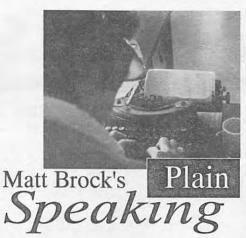


BOB HOLLY VS. RAD RADFORD



Two of the WWF's fine young stars treated the fans to an exciting bout during the non-televised portion of the In Your House IV card. Neither man gained a decisive advantage in the first few minutes, though Holly did catch Radford with some nice dropkicks. Radford eventually went on the offensive and gained the upper hand for a while, then slowed the pace of the match down with a series of armbars. Holly struggled a bit in his effort to escape that hold, but he finally did so. He took down Radford in a crucifix for the pin.

OTHER BOUTS: Henry Godwinn beat Sid Vicious ... Bret Hart beat Isaac Yankem ... Hunter Hearst Helmsley beat Fatu ... WWF World tag team champs The Smokin' Gunns beat Razor Ramon & The Kid ... Goldust beat Marty Jannetty ... Yokozuna wrestled Mabel to a double-countout ... Razor Ramon beat Intercontinental champ Dean Douglas for the belt ... Davey Boy Smith beat WWF World champ Diesel by disqualification.



Harder than nails,
veteran wrestling
reporter Matt Brock
has logged more
miles covering
wrestling than any
other journalist.
Every month Matt will
travel to the sport's
hotbeds, reporting
everything he sees
without fear or favor

Tews hit the wires today that Crush was given five years probation and fined \$10,000 after pleading no-contest to 11 counts of drug and weapons charges, which means he got far more for that than a certain former football player got after

being tried for murdering his ex-wife. Crush must undergo

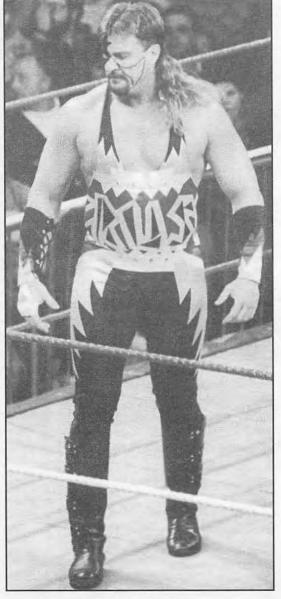
random drug testing and perform 200 hours of community service,

and if he violates any portion of his probation, he could end up in jail. The news is sad and happy at the same time. Crush got off soft, which is good for him, but you hate to see somebody you know fall upon hard times. The other bad news, of course, is that Crush, once a role model for a lot of children, has had his reputation permanently besmirched, and it's all his fault. Rehabilitating his image might be impossible, and I don't know if any federation other than a very small independent would touch him at this point. Too bad, because Crush was becoming a major star.

ood town to be alone in. No place to go, so nobody bothers you about going out. Right in front of my hotel a few hours ago, there was a big traffic jam heading into a tunnel. Asked the concierge where everybody was going, and he said, "To Windsor. That's where all the

nightlife is. Strip bars and stuff. Ain't you never heard of Bob Probert?" No, I've never heard of Bob Probert, but I've been to plenty of strip dumps in my life, and when you've seen one, you've seen them all. Besides, I'm always

afraid of walking into one and seeing someone who looks like my niece, Brandi, dancing on one of the runways. Gives me shivers. Stayed in my room for about two hours, didn't get any phone calls, saw no blinking lights, so I headed down to the hotel bar,



CRUSH

where the concierge said all of the sports people who come to town eventually end up sooner or later. Figured this would be either a rulebreakers bar or a fan favorites bar. not both, and guessed on fan favorites. Only it wasn't a very good night for fan favorites at Halloween Havoc. Hulk Hogan was nowhere to be found, and neither were Randy Savage and Sting. One night earlier, Jimmy Hart and Lex Luger might've been here, but not anymore. Saw Road Warrior Hawk sitting at a corner table all by himself and decided not to bother him, until he motioned me over and told me he had a question to ask. "What's going on here?" he asked. I didn't have to ask him what he meant. What's going on is that the tag team picture is a mess, Hulk Hogan doesn't have any friends he can trust, Lex Luger's doing the same thing he always did all over again, Randy

Savage is confused, and Ric Flair's playing reruns with The Four Horsemen. He looked at me and shook his head. Didn't say a word except, "Unbelievable." "You eating?" I asked him. "Not in the mood," he said, which was my signal to find another place to sit, so I walked over to the bar and found myself sitting next to a pretty brunette who must've been 10 years younger than yours truly, although her eyes said 10 years older. Turned out her husband just left her for his secretary after 32 years, the children are out of the house, and she has nothing to do on a Saturday night but hang out in hotel bars and meet other lonely people. Wasn't sure I belonged in that category, so I wished her good luck and went back to my room. No messages.

wo days too late or right on time, depending upon your perspective. There was almost a riot here at ECW

Arena a couple of nights ago when

Cactus Jack tossed a burning chair with a gasolinesoaked towel toward the ropes. The towel came off the chair and landed on the back of Terry Funk, who was standing outside the ring. Fearing for his life, Funk grabbed the towel and made the near-tragic mistake of tossing the towel into the stands. Then the lights went out, and it was a miracle that the flames were extinguished



DIESEL BEARHUGS BRET

and nobody got killed. ECW President/Commissioner Tod Gordon refused to comment on the incident, understandable considering the potential legal liability involved, but it just has to be going through his mind that this time, ECW's wild style of wrestling has gone too far. Ultraviolent matches draw fans. but there has to be some consideration for safety, of both the wrestlers and the fans. Put it this way: There are a lot of people who would pay to watch a man jump off a building and to his

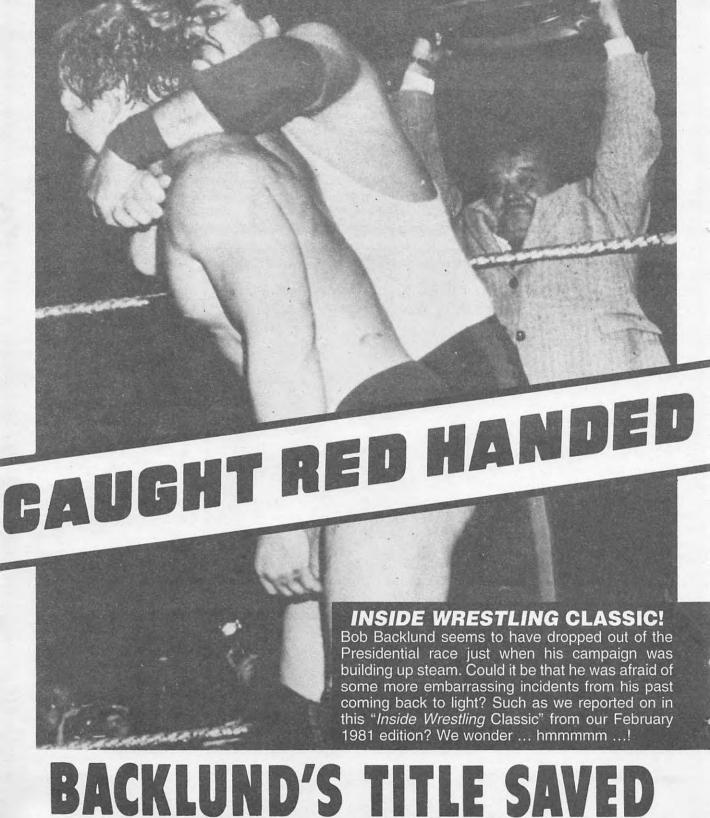
> death, but that doesn't mean somebody out there has to satisfy the demand. Wrestling has gone in the wrong direction when the ultimate objective is violence rather than sport. The sport has its violent moments, but that can't be the

selling point.

ret Hart and Diesel never seemed like a match made in heaven. The way things are shaping up right now, it looks like 1996 is going to

be an interesting year in the WWF. with the World title up for grabs and so many wrestlers-Diesel, Hart, Owen Hart. Shawn Michaels, Davey Boy Smith, The Undertaker, and "Psycho" Sid Vicious-in the hunt for it. Which will be the fan favorites

and which will be the rulebreakers is anyone's guess, but I disagree with my colleagues here who say Michaels will have the belt by the end of the year. Go with Hart. Bret, that is. He has overcome too much not to make the final step to the top.



Has Bob Backlund succumbed to illegality to save his WWF title? Many who attended the recent championship match between Backlund and Sqt. Slaughter swear Backlund's manager Arnold Skoaland had to save the young champion from certain defeat

PHOTOS BY STU SAKS & BILL APTER

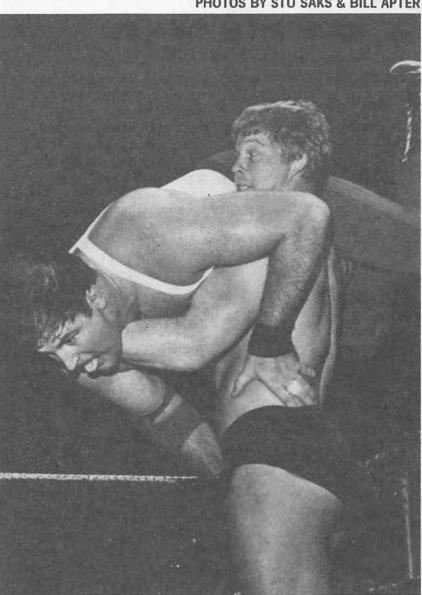
HE BLOODY FACE of Sqt. Slaughter glistened crimson throughout Madison Square Garden. Even veteran wrestling fans were horrified by the bloody sight. The only person not disgusted was Slaughter himself. He was looking for revenge.

Supposedly, Slaughter's opponent was WWF champion Bob Backlund. Yet, there was something inside Slaughter that didn't think about who the opponent was, how best to defeat him. Roaring in a blind rage. Slaughter only wanted to destroy.

Reeling in pain and anger, Slaughter came near Arnold Skoaland. The grappler went out on the ring apron and kicked Skoaland in the head. The manager, stunned, collapsed from the blow. It was an ugly thing to do, the kind of maneuver one would expect from a wounded animal.

As Skoaland lay bleary and barely conscious, Slaughter went after Backlund. Using a series of maneuvers not found in any book on wrestling (or even jungle fighting), Slaughter captured Backlund in a cobra hold. The ex-Marine Slaughter was a study in ferocity as he squeezed the champion's head. Backlund struggled to escape, but the hold just seemed to get tighter.

Some ringsiders say Backlund might have eventually escaped. Others say Slaughter was moments away from defeating his foe, moments away from becoming the WWF champion. Then, from seemingly nowhere, Arnold



What provoked Arnold Skoaland to hit Sgt. Slaughter from behind with a chair (opposite page)? Was he retaliating for being kicked by Slaughter moments earlier or was he trying to save Bob Backlund's championship? Backlund is in control of the match (above).

Skoaland came bursting into the ring. Brandishing a chair, he smashed it over Slaughter's head. The sickening crack of metal on skull could be heard throughout the arena. Slaughter released his hold.

Of course, that was the end of the bout. Backlund was

disqualified for outside interference. Slaughter and his manager Grand Wizard were furious. The title can't change on a disqualification and Slaughter wasn't the champion.

"We've been robbed!" Grand Wizard screamed moments



Backlund takes aim and fires a right at Slaughter's exposed face (above). Backlund rarely uses the piledriver, but for Slaughter he made an exception (below). The champion dominated most of the action.



after the match. "Backlund was through, finished, doomed. Sgt. Slaughter, ex-Marine, deserves to be champion! It was the most disgraceful thing I've ever seen!

"Skoaland interfered. How many times has Arnold the Asinine complained about me interfering? He's insulted me over 100 times that way and people believed him. He's even had me locked up in a cage during a match so I wouldn't interfere. Can anybody tell me the last time I hit a wrestler over

the head with a chair to save my grappler. Never, that's when! Maybe that's the reason Backlund is champion and Slaughter isn't."

Slaughter, a man kicked out of the Marine Corps for being too vicious, was being stitched up while Wizard ranted. When the doctor told him the worst was over, Slaughter beckoned reporters to his training table.

"I live my life clean!" he shouted. "I'm as honest as the day is long. That's my Marine training. I may be tough, but it's a war out there every match. Kill or be killed. The guys who get killed don't get to come back tomorrow!

"Backlund is a bum! Skoaland is a bum! I'm the real WWF champion. Everyone knows it! I'm the best! The best!

"I want Backlund to apologize now! He's not the real champion. The title should be vacated!"

 Wizard delighted in that idea.
 "Yeah," he agreed, "the title should be vacated. If Backlund and Skoaland are half as honest as they pretend to be, they'll vacate the title!"

In Backlund's dressing room, Skoaland refused to talk to reporters. Embarrassed, disgusted with himself for breaking the rules, Skoaland was too upset to talk. He sent out a prepared statement with Backlund, however. "I was wrong," it said. "I let my temper get the best of me. Tonight, I was no better than Sgt. Slaughter or Grand Wizard. In fact, I was worse. They don't know better and I do."

When Backlund heard about Wizard's demand that he vacate the title, Bob declared, "That sounds like Wizard, You'll have

to take my word for it that I was about to escape Slaughter's hold. Arnold didn't interfere to save me. He was simply reacting to being brutally kicked in the head. I wish he didn't do it, but I understand it. If you could see him now, you'd never think of listening to anything Wizard says. Arnold is a sad, sorry man.



Slaughter tries to propel himself back into the ring, but he is met by Backlund and his cocked right fist. Slaughter narrowly missed being counted out.

"I agree Slaughter deserves another title shot. He doesn't deserve a match in which the title is vacated. I earned that belt and I'm not letting Wizard talk me out of it."

As of now, there is no official move to take Backlund's title from him. There probably never will be such a move. Yet, for those many ringsiders who think Backlund was finished, perhaps justice has not been served. Only they, and now you, can decide for sure.

### Are you prepared for **EXTREME** action?

The hardcore action of ECW—Extreme Championship Wrestling (formerly Eastern Championship Wrestling)—has been the talk of wrestling insiders for nearly two years! Now, a full line of ECW videotapes brings this incredible action into your own home!

#### SUPER SUMMER SIZZLER SPECTACULAR!

Eddie Gilbert vs. Terry Funk in a Texas chain match! Peaches vs. Tigra catfight—uncut! Tommy Cairo, Jimmy Snuka, The Sandman, The Suicide Blondes, and much more! Exceptional chaos! \$24.95

#### **ULTRA CLASH '93!**

Terry Funk vs. Stan Hansen vs. Abdullah the Butcher & Kevin Sullivan! Dark Patriot vs. J.T. Smith scaffold match! Shane Douglas, Public Enemy, Sherri Martel, a wild baseball bat match, and more! Ultra-sensational! \$24.95

#### **ECW'S BLOODIEST MATCHES!**

Eddie Gilbert & The Dark Patriot vs. Miguel Perez Jr. & Mr. Danger! Kevin Sullivan vs. Abdullah the Butcher—in a cage! Stan Hansen & Terry Funk take on Abdullah and Sullivan! The Headhunters, and much more! Pure wildness! \$19.95

#### THE NIGHT THE LINE WAS CROSSED!

Triangle match of the year: Sabu vs. Terry Funk vs. Shane Douglas! Also: Public Enemy vs. Bruise Brothers! Original Sheik, Mr. Hughes, Tasmaniac, Kevin Sullivan, Jimmy Snuka, and many others! Amazing intensity! \$24.95

#### WHEN WORLDS COLLIDE!

Bobby Eaton & Sabu vs. Terry Fund & Am Anderson! Tommy Cairo vs. Sandman—in a brutal Singapore caning match! Kevin Sullivan vs. Jimmy Snuka! Plus: Mr. Hughes, 911, Public Enemy, Bruise Brothers, more! Incredible bedlam! \$24.95

#### HOSTILE CITY SHOWDOWN!

Cactus Jack vs. Sabu (with Paul E. Dangerously)! Shane Douglas & Mr. Hughes vs. Bruise Brothers! Tasmaniac vs. Pitbull—dog collar bout! Singapore caning rematch! Public Enemy vs. The Funks! And more! Awesome fury! \$24.95

#### HEAT WAVE '94: BATTLE FOR THE FUTURE!

ECW title match: Shane Douglas vs. Sabul Bloody barbed wire match: Public Enemy vs. The Funks! It's dueling canes between Tommy Cairo and Sandman! Tasmaniac, Mikey Whipwreck, Woman, and more! Blazing brawling! \$24.95

### HARDCORE HEAVEN!

Terry Funk vs. Cactus Jack! Public Enemy vs. Bad Breed—in baseball bat match! Sabu vs. 2 Cold Scorpio! Jason vs. Mikey Whipwreck! Jimmy Snuka & Tasmaniac vs. The Pitbulls! Much more! As wild as it gets! \$24.95

#### TAG WARS' 94

The most brutal tag team bouts of 1994 are here with The Public Enemy, Sabu & Taz, Malenko Bros., The Bad Breed, The Pit Bulls and The Bruise Brothers. Just \$24.95!

#### **DOUBLE TABLES!**

You'll witness one of the most unique matches ever as Sabu and Taz with Paul E. Dangerously battle The Public Enemy. There are no rules and the only way to win the match is to send each member of the opposing team sprawling through a table! Plus: "The Franchise" Shane Douglas defends the ECW title against Tully Blanchard, and old style Texas death match as Cactus Jack battles the Sandman and blood spills as brothers Axl and Ian Rotten go at it one on one and several more big matches with Chris Benoit, Al Snow, more......Just \$24.95!

#### THE RETURN OF THE FUNKER!

See Terry Funk make his shocking return to the ECW. Plus: Douglas defends the title against Marty Jannetty, Chris Benoit and Dean Malenko do battle with Sabu and Taz, a barbed wire baseball bat pitting Axl against Ian Rotten and much, much more.....All the action can be yours for \$24.95!

### THE THREE WAY DANCE!

The three way dance, perhaps the most anticipated match in ECW history can now be brought into your home. You'll see the teams of The Public Enemy, Chris Benoit, & Dean Malenko and Taz & Rick Steiner all fight in out at once for the Tag Team Titles! Plus: Woman weaves another scheme as Shane Douglas defends the World Title vs The Sandman, high flying action as Eddie Guerrero debuts against Too Cold Scorpio, blood flows between brothers Ian and Axl Rotten in a hair match, Raven vs Tommy Dreamer brawl and more. Only \$24.95.

☐ YES! I'm ready for the wildness, recklessness, and sheer intensity that only you can offer! Send me the video(s) I have indicated below. I have enclosed a check or money order made payable to Global	Name		Apt.#		
Distributors.	City		State Zip		
TITLE		QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL	
MERCHANDISE BROCHURE		1	FREE	FREE	
SEND TO: Global Distributors, Inc. 3120 A Ridge Pike Eagleville, PA 19403			SUBTOTAL: SHIPPING & HANDLING: ENTS ADD 6% SALES TAX: UTSIDE THE U.S., ADD TOTAL ENCLOSED:	\$4.95 \$10.00	

Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. International money orders in U.S. funds only. All videos are VHS and NTSC system compatible only. PAL systems are not compatible. All tapes carry a

100% money back guarantee against defects only. If tape is defective, please return it with a note specifying the defect.

The Sherri-Parker romance began at The Great American Bash when Parker confronted his fellow manager (left), then gave her a big, sloppy kiss (below). At the time, she couldn't stand the sight of him, but, boy, has she changed! Interview Conducted! 30 **INSIDE WRESTLING** 

## When Col. Parker and Sherri Martel offered to share a limousine

ride with one of our writers, they didn't realize how much they were sharing. Inside Wrestling learned that the managers were doing some inside wrestling of their own!

### By Chris Bernucca

OT LIKE THAT, Robby, like this. Yes."
It was a female voice, mid-

way between pleading and ordering. There was silence, and then sounds of purring pleasure. I stopped the tape.

"Do you want me to continue?" I asked our publisher. Stu Saks had the same look on his face I'm sure I had when I first played the tape. Of course he wanted me to continue, but he didn't want to seem too excited about it. He bit his lower lip to stop a smile of glee and nodded his head. I pressed the button.

"Why did you invite him?" the female voice asked. The next sentence or two was hard to decipher. It was if the woman was talking while her

THE WRES

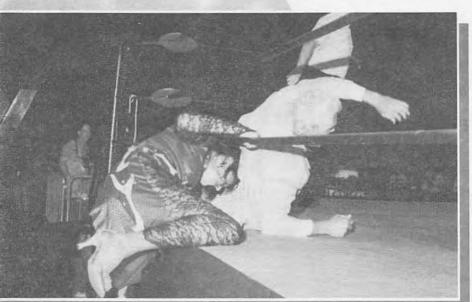
mouth was pressed against what seemed like another set of lips. Then the man spoke.

"I wanted ... wanted to tell ... our side of the story." The breathing was so heavy that you would think he was jogging. But he wasn't jogging. The woman spoke again.

"Tell him to find a cab when the card is over," she whispered. "Win, lose, or draw, I want you all to myself tonight. You know what I mean?"

There was a sigh from the man, then a sigh from both. Stu couldn't contain it anymore. He allowed himself a big grin and laughed out loud. I stopped the tape.

"Shush!" I said. "This is where he realizes I'm coming back to the car."



That Sherri ... she can't even keep her hands off Col. Parker when they're at ringside together. You can imagine what she's like when she gets her man alone somewhere ... say, in a limo.



Sherri and Parker have been giving each other the look of love at ringside recently. Now we have evidence that they've been doing more than just affectionately looking at each other.

"Didn't they care about the driver?" Stu asked.

"No," I said. "The limo had one of those wood partitions and an intercom thing. He couldn't see even if he wanted to."

"I bet he wanted to," Stu said.

I pressed the PLAY button again and a car door was heard opening and closing. Then it was my voice on the tape. "Thanks," I said over the crinkle of cellophane. "You mind if I smoke?" "Well, I'm more partial to cee-gars, but you go right ahead there, my boy," Col. Parker said. I stopped the tape again and looked at Stu.

"That's it?" Stu asked.

"That's it!?! Isn't that enough? I come back with an audio cassette of Col. Parker and Sherri doing a

900-number routine and you say, 'That's it?' What more do you want?"

"All right, all right," Stu conceded. "It's pretty juicy stuff. In fact, it's real juicy. But I don't know if we can print it. We have to check with the legal department. Besides, how do you know those two weren't setting you up and putting one over on you?"

It all started when Col. Robert Parker agreed to meet me at the hotel coffee shop one hour before he was to leave for the arena and that night's card. When it was time for him to go, he offered me a ride to the arena—in his limousine.

We were met at the car by Sherri, who shot me a nasty sneer before quickly smiling at Parker. She is still burning about the piece I did regarding her relationship with Harlem Heat (see the September 1995 issue of *PWI*), which appeared to be a bit more than manager-wrestler. She still denies what happened, although she offers no proof otherwise.

Parker and Sherri sat next to each other across from me, and I began transcribing notes from the previous day's sit-down with Parker in his hotel room. He poured himself a short glass of bourbon, but Sherri opted for mineral water. Parker was wearing his traditional gray suit and hat, and Sherri had squeezed herself into a black danskin bodystocking with black pumps and a white leather jacket.

It was a cool evening—the windows and sunroof were closed. I reached for my pack of cigarettes and realized I was down to my last one. I asked Parker if it would be too much trouble to stop at the next convenience store.

"No trouble, no trouble 'tall, son," he said, smiling at Sherri.

"Driver, you stop at the next smoke shop for our friend here, you hear?"

I was transcribing one of Parker's diatribes from the previous day. I remembered it well. He was trying to compare wrestling to the Civil War. I recalled him going on and on and on about material that was never going to make it into the story. The limousine slowed to a halt and I pressed STOP on my recorder. Then I pressed REC and left the tiny taper on the seat.

"Be right back," I said.

"You take your time there, young man," Parker said. I walked leisurely into the store. If they were going to do something or say something, I wanted them to think they had plenty of time. I was gone about eight minutes.

"Thanks," I said, climbing back into the car. "You mind if I smoke?"

Parker had a mascara smudge on his starched collar. His bolo tie had been tugged down. His hat sat off-center upon his head. Sherri was trying to duck behind a compact mirror, but her lipstick was smeared and the bodystocking was about to slide off her left shoulder. Her chest was heaving a bit.

"Well, I'm more partial to ceegars, but you go right ahead there, my boy," Parker said.

I looked out the window. There was a small circle of condensation, quickly evaporating. I wiped at it, and it smeared before drying. I pressed STOP on the recorder, lit a cigarette, and smiled. My plan had worked to perfection.

INSIDE WRESTLING



## Wrestling's

In the year that was, Hulk Hogan held off a lot of threats

What

to the WCW World title until the title was held up in November,

1996

and Diesel established himself as a working man's champion.

Has In

But things figure to be quite different in 1996.

Store

It's going to be another fascinating year in wrestling.

For Them!

### Top Stars:

## WCW

### **HULK HOGAN**

The former WCW World champion's Year of Living Dangerously will turn into the Year of Living on the Precipice. Safe from nobody and with former manager Jimmy Hart and Lex Luger now on the opposite side, the "Hulkster" will face test after test after test, especially if he is able to win a second WCW World title. Throw in continued threats from The Giant, the reunion of The Four Horsemen, and other unforeseen challenges, and it's clear Hogan is going to have a very difficult 1996.

But that's not the whole story. Another threat to Hogan, we think, will come from Sabu. The former ECW heavyweight champion has risen quickly in the WCW ratings and has proven himself to be one of the most talented, spectacular, and fearless wrestlers in history. We look for (and hope for) several Sabu-Hogan matches in 1996.

Then there are the outside distractions. Hogan continues to work on music, film, and television projects. The tough job for Hogan will be balancing these two very demanding, though equally important, aspects of his life. It won't be easy. We don't see him as WCW World champion at the end of 1996.

1995 HIGHLIGHT: Defeating Big Van Vader in a steel cage match at Bash at the Beach.

1995 LOWLIGHT: Getting attacked by former friends Jimmy Hart and Lex Luger at Halloween Havoc.



### THE GIANT

Wearing the belt's about as close as The Giant's going to get to the WCW World title. He won't hold the belt at all in 1996, and, humbled by failure, will drop out of the spotlight. The Giant will wrestle in Japan for a brief period, return to WCW by early-fall, and have to work his way back up the ladder of contention. With the element of surprise gone, Giant will battle for respect on middle-of-the-card matches until he shocks the world with an attack on Jimmy Hart and Lex Luger. If Big Van Vader can turn fan favorite, anyone can.

1995 HIGHLIGHT: Seriously injuring Hulk Hogan's neck at Fall Brawl.

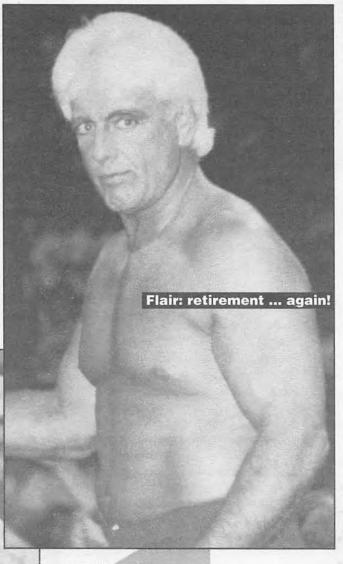
1995 LOWLIGHT: Getting thrown off the roof of Cobo Hall by Hogan.

### RIC FLAIR

Still crazy after all these years, Flair's relationship with his Four Horsemen teammates will be more contentious than ever. With Flair's star falling and his inability to win even the U.S. title consuming his life, Flair will blame all his troubles on Horsemen partners Brian Pillman, Arn Anderson, and Chris Benoit (provided he does, as expected, join the group), leading to yet another breakup of the Horsemen later in the year. This time, Anderson really will turn against Flair, until finally, at Starrcade '96, Flair loses a "loser-mustretire" match to "The Enforcer." This time, he won't be back.

**1995 HIGHLIGHT:** Reuniting The Four Horsemen at Halloween Havoc.

1995 LOWLIGHT: Getting cleanly pinned by Randy Savage at Bash at the Beach.



### STING

Failing to realize that he's being used as a pawn by rulebreakers and fan favorites alike, the "Stinger" will continue enjoying the adoration of the fans while getting absolutely nowhere in his quest to win the WCW World title. On several occasions, Sting's interference will actually save Hogan from losing important matches and/or getting seriously injured. Hogan, however, won't return the favor when Randy Savage benefits from interference to win the U.S. title from Sting. As 1996 draws to a close at Starrcade, Sting will shock the world by turning to Hogan during an interview and saying, "Aren't you ever going to retire?"

**1995 HIGHLIGHT:** Winning the U.S. title by beating Meng in a tournament final at The Great American Bash.

1995 LOWLIGHT: Getting ambushed by Ric Flair, Arn Anderson, and Brian Pillman at Halloween Havoc.

## Luger: a World title for his "rack"?

#### LEX LUGER

Same old same old. Big efforts, but only close calls and painful losses to Hulk Hogan. Frustration and anger. Another attempt to regroup in tag teams. Letdowns at the major pay-per-view cards. It has become amazingly easy to predict Luger's years. They're always the same. This one could be different, however. Lex got a huge break when the World title was held up in November. Now he won't necessarily have to go through Hogan to get that prize. Don't be surprised if he wins it.

1995 HIGHLIGHT: Brutally attacking Hulk Hogan at Halloween Havoc and locking him in his "torture rack."

1995 LOWLIGHT: Losing to Hogan by disqualification at the September 11 WCW Monday Nitro.

#### SABU

Rising to the top ... and staying there. Sabu will reveal the key to beating Hulk Hogan: a reckless, relentless aerial and high-risk attack in which eventually, one high-risk move is going to work. Even one out of 10 successes will be good enough for Sabu, who'll beat Hogan late in the year at a pay-per-view event. Most surprising, however, will be when Hogan's loss isn't greeted by boos for Sabu, but cheers for the exciting aerialist, who'll celebrate his success by breaking a table over Hogan's head.

1995 HIGHLIGHT: Signing with WCW.

1995 LOWLIGHT: Leaving ECW, a federation in which he was a hero, after a nasty disagreement with promoters there.



#### **ARN ANDERSON**

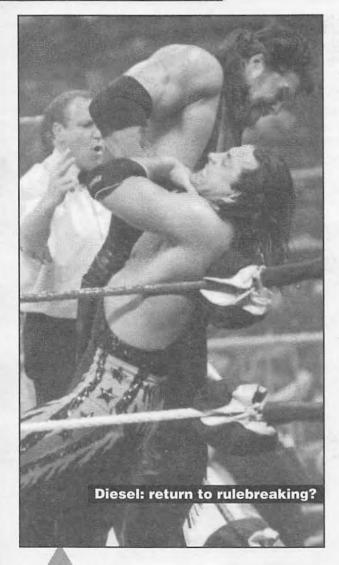
The new Four Horsemen experiment will not work (see Ric Flair), but this time Anderson will overshadow Flair with a big win at Starrcade '96. Anderson, however, will remain a rulebreaker and take charge of The Four Horsemen, which will include Pillman, Benoit, and a wrestler to be named later.

1995 HIGHLIGHT: The return of The Four Horsemen.

1995 LOWLIGHT: Losing the WCW TV title to The Renegade at The Great American Bash.

Arn: Sayonara, Ric!

#### WWF



#### SHAWN MICHAELS

In all likelihood, "The Heartbreak Kid" hasn't learned his lesson and will keep frequenting dance clubs and other places where adoring women have the chance to adore him. It's also likely that Michaels will bypass the WWF Intercontinental title and go straight after the World title this time. This time, he'll succeed.

Michaels has been knocking at the door of the ultimate greatness for a few years, and he's about to walk right through. Although it remains to be seen whether Michaels can be a dominating WWF World champion, he'll finish the year on top and will stake his claim as the most popular WWF champ since Hogan.

1995 HIGHLIGHT: Beating Jeff Jarrett for the Intercontinental title at In Your House II.

1995 LOWLIGHT: Being severely beaten by a group of men outside a nightclub in upstate New York and having to forfeit the I-C title to Dean Douglas at In Your House IV.

#### DIESEL

Hampered by painful injuries and facing threats from all corners, "Big Daddy Cool" is going to have a hard time staying hot in the coming year. It might prove to be an impossible task. Perhaps Diesel's biggest mistake was being so generous to fellow fan favorites. No wonder Hogan never wrestles his friends; he has a hard enough time fending off his enemies.

Staying at or near the top will be difficult for Diesel. Temptation could take over, and Diesel might find himself back within the ranks of wrestling's rulebreakers.

1995 HIGHLIGHT: Beating his good friend Shawn Michaels at WrestleMania XI.

1995 LOWLIGHT: Suffering an injury to his elbow at the hands of "Psycho" Sid Vicious at In Your House I.



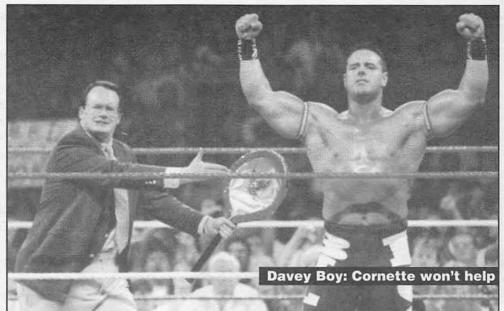
#### DAVEY BOY

Shunned in Britain and virtually friendless. Davey Boy will become more and more bitter and join with Owen Hart for one of the most heinous attacks ever on Bret Hart. The attack will land Hart in the hospital and eventually lead to Shawn Michaels winning the WWF World title. Meanwhile, Davey Boy will become frustrated by his inability to regain the Intercontinental title and, later, a

series of suspensions heaped upon him by WWF President Gorilla Monsoon, But Davey Boy's problems won't end there, as it'll be discovered that he failed to report to the I.R.S. off-the-books payments by Ted DiBiase.

1995 HIGHLIGHT: Attacking Diesel and signing with manager Jim Cornette in August.

1995 LOWLIGHT: Losing his chance to unseat Diesel as WWF World champ at In Your House IV when Bret Hart interferes.

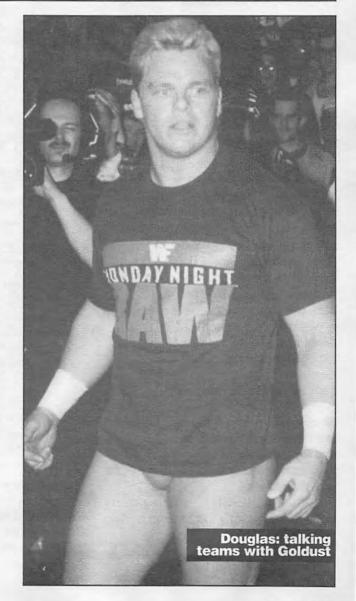




Some people never learn, and Shane "Dean" Douglas is one of them. Not humbled by his quick Intercontinental title loss to Razor Ramon, Douglas will resume his assault on the "Bad Guy" and suffer loss after loss in embarrassing fashion. Still not having learned his lesson, Douglas will suffer a humiliating loss to Shawn Michaels at WrestleMania XII. Finally, completely frustrated, Douglas will right his career by forming an outstanding tag team with Goldust. They'll capture the WWF World tag team title at SummerSlam '96 and go into 1997 as the top-ranked tag team in the world.

1995 HIGHLIGHT: Winning the I-C title by forfeit from Shawn Michaels at In Your House IV.

1995 LOWLIGHT: Losing the I-C title to Razor Ramon at In Your House IV.



## Ramon: not done with Shawn

#### RAZOR RAMON

With Shawn Michaels aiming higher, Ramon might find his toughest tests for the Intercontinental title coming from Dean Douglas and Davey Boy Smith, or possibly a rejuvenated "Psycho" Sid Vicious. Although Ramon will hold off Douglas, Smith, and Vicious, he'll wear down around the middle of the year and finally lose the belt to a surprising newcomer from an independent federation, possibly Cactus Jack. Ramon will then make a career decision to not go after the I-C belt again and instead focus on new World champion Shawn Michaels.

1995 HIGHLIGHT: Winning his fourth I-C title by beating Dean Douglas.

1995 LOWLIGHT: Losing the I-C title to Jeff Jarrett at the Royal Rumble.

#### **BRET HART**

A productive year for "The Hitman" will start with him holding the WWF World title and successfully defending it against Mabel at Wrestle-Mania XII. He'll suffer a painful setback at King of the Ring, however, when he's attacked by Davey Boy Smith and brother Owen. Bret's back and legs will be severely weakened by the attacks, and although he won't be forced to give up the belt, he'll barely overcome a challenge from Davey Boy at Summer-Slam '96. Bret Hart vs. Shawn Michaels will be the main event at Survivor Series and Bret, who will be advised

by doctors to not wrestle, will lose the title in a classic match.

1995 HIGHLIGHT: Beating Jerry Lawler in a "kiss-my-foot" match at King of the Ring.

1995 LOWLIGHT: Getting accused by Lawler and Hakushi of being a racist.



**Owen and Bret:** 

more trouble

MABEL

Mo and Mabel: splitsville

The Mabel-Mo tag team will come crashing down as Mo accuses Mabel of being selfish and not paying enough attention to Men on a Mission. Distraught over the breakup, Mabel will get humbled by Bret Hart in a World title match at WrestleMania XII. However, he'll bounce back to become the first wrestler to win King of the Ring two years in a row. Mabel will form a new tag team with Yokozuna—The Monster Sushis, perhaps—and the

duo will defeat The Smokin' Gunns for the belts at Survivor Series. Incensed by Yokozuna's decision to team with Mabel, Owen Hart will attack both of them after the match ... and get squashed.

1995 HIGHLIGHT: Winning the King of the Ring tournament.

1995 LOWLIGHT: Getting beaten fairly easily by Diesel at SummerSlam.

## Lawler: a pain in the neck for Vince

#### DAN SEVERN

After winning another Ultimate Fighting Championship, Severn will lose his NWA belt. Then he'll finally satisfy his fans by announcing that he has accomplished all he can in the UFCs and will now dedicate himself to winning a major title in WCW. WCW promoters will welcome him with open arms, but Severn will have to work his way up from the bottom.

1995 HIGHLIGHT: Winning Ultimate Fighting Championship V.

1995 LOWLIGHT: Losing "superfight" to fellow wrestler Ken Shamrock at UFC VI.

Severn: WCW bound?

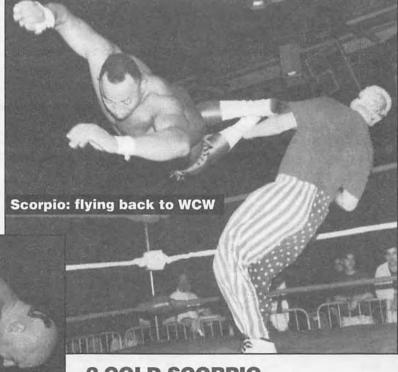
#### INDEPENDENTS

#### JERRY LAWLER

Although Lawler will maintain his busy schedule as WWF commentator and USWA wrestler, "The King" will lose his USWA title early in the year and not win it back once during the year. In a moment of weakness, WWF head Vince McMahon will mention Lawler's independent failures during a WWF broadcast. An angry Lawler will attack his boss and wrench his neck. Lawler will finish the year suspended by the WWF and unable to dethrone new USWA champion Tracev Smothers.

1995 HIGHLIGHT: Beating "Psycho" Sid Vicious for the USWA heavyweight title in February.

1995 LOWLIGHT: Losing that "kiss-my-foot" match to Hart at King of the Ring.



#### 2 COLD SCORPIO

A few more ECW TV titles will convince Scorpio that he's ready to return to WCW and reunite with Marcus Alexander Bagwell. The two will take WCW by storm, fall short in their guest for the World tag team title, but hustle into 1997 with bright prospects for the future.

1995 HIGHLIGHT: Winning the ECW TV title from Eddy Guerrero in August.

1995 LOWLIGHT: Relying on the help of shady referee Bill Alfonso to win certain ECW matches.



### MIKEY WHIPWRECK

"I'M NOT AFRAID ANYMORE!"

E'S THE NEW ECW heavyweight champion. He's the top dog in a federation in which only the tough, the fearless, and the crazy survive and thrive. If he's champion, he must be the strongest of the strong in a bloodthirsty federation. He's ... Mikey Whipwreck? Believe it or not, it's true! Mikey Whipwreck—all 5'7" and 181 pounds of him—is the new Extreme Championship Wrestling heavyweight champion!

How did this happen? How could Whipwreck, a man who used to be terrified of just about all his fellow ECW wrestlers, win such a prestigious championship? Well, it happened on October 28 in Philadelphia, when Whipwreck defeated The Sandman in an extremely violent ladder match. It was an upset of Horowitz-like proportions. The crowd at ECW Arena went crazy; Mikey himself could hardly believe it!

Incredible! Just last summer, when he was ECW TV champ, Whipwreck freely admitted that he hadn't mastered a single wrestling move or hold. Now he's one of the most exciting wrestlers in ECW and one of the most successful.

Managing Editor Dave Lenker caught up with Whipwreck a few days after he won the ECW belt. "I never thought I'd say this," Lenker reported, "but Mikey Whipwreck actually sounded confident. He thinks he can hold on to this title for a long time!"

- Q: Mikey, first off, let me congratulate you on this ... this unbelievable victory. Sorry, but I still can't believe it. Don't take this personally, but I've got to say that I never thought you could do it.
- A: Well, there was a time when I would have said the same thing. I used to think I was a lousy wrestler and that I should just get out of this crazy business before I got myself killed. But when I won that TV belt last year-I know it was a fluke win-and then me and Cactus Jack won the tag team title a few months later. I got to thinking: If I was that successful when I didn't really know what the hell I was doing, how good could I be if I got myself in the gym and learned some moves. I spent some time with the Public

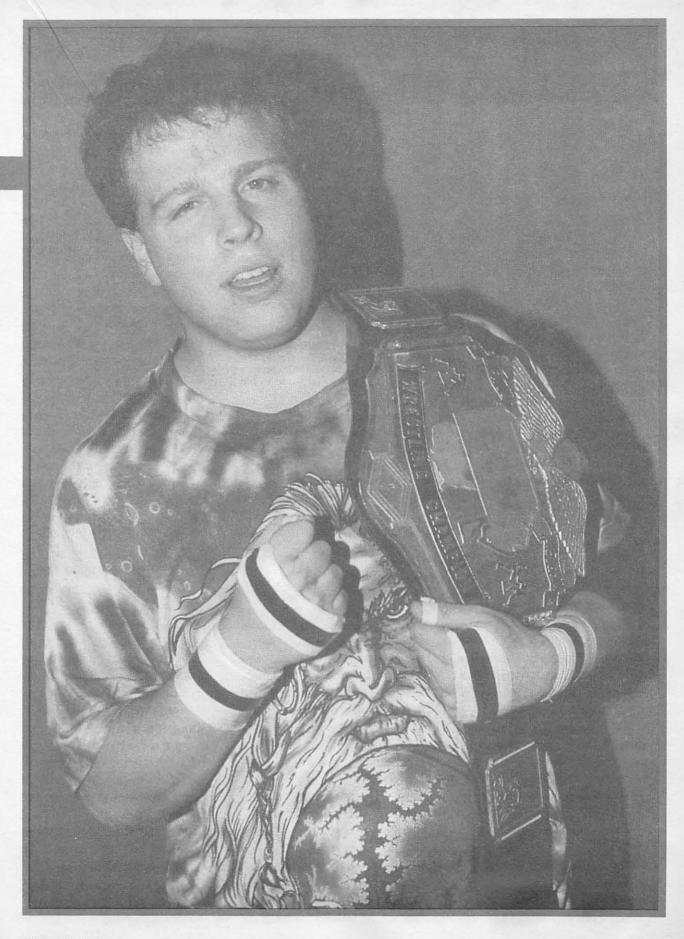
Enemy guys and lot of other people, and now I'm a new man.

- Q: I'd agree with that. That "Frankensteiner" of yours is incredible. And now you're the ECW heavyweight champion.
- A: Mikey Whipwreck ... ECW heavyweight champion. I like

"I used to think I
was a lousy
wrestler and
that I should just
get out of this
crazy business
before I got
myself killed."

#### the sound of that.

- Q: How satisfying was it for you to beat The Sandman, cleanly, in the middle of the ring, and take his belt from him? The guy doesn't exactly have a lot of respect for you.
- A: Seeing him all bloody and mad and in pain ... I really liked that. He deserves it. He calls me a punk and a little boy. Well, I have more guts than he'll ever have.
- Q: In the months before that big ladder match, you had a few of those Singapore caning matches, and you took some vicious shots with his cane. I guess that's something you don't easily forget.
- A: No, I still have some of the scars. They might never totally go away. The Sandman acts like a big man when he's carrying that cane and has a ciga-



"I'm gonna do
myself and all
the fans proud.
I'm not gonna
back down from
anyone. I don't
want anyone to
ever call Mikey
Whipwreck a
coward."



rette in his mouth, but deep down inside, he's a coward. Whenever I lost a caning match to him, I took my lashes like a man afterward. I remember once when Woman was saying she'd make Sandman stop if I got down on my knees and begged her for mercy. I'd never, ever do that.

- Q: I remember her saying something to the effect of you'll never be a real man like The Sandman.
- A: Yeah, she thinks The Sandman is a real man. I beat him in a non-title match a few months ago and he was supposed to take 10 lashes with the cane from me. He bailed out after a few shots and ended up hitting me. That's a real man for you. Things get too tough for him



Mikey takes down The Sandman outside the ring with his favorite move, the "Frankensteiner" (above), then uses a ladder on him (below) en route to his victory for the ECW heavyweight title.



and he bails out. If Woman wants to be around a real man, maybe she should hang around with me. Ah, forget that. I wouldn't want that tramp.

- Q: How did it feel to get that belt and have all those people at the ECW arena chanting your name? I mean, you're a hero in ECW, and those fans aren't easily satisfied.
- A: No, they've always been great to me, even when I was nobody. I guess they love an underdog. I tell you, Dave, hearing all those people yell "Mikey ... Mikey!" makes all

the pain and suffering worth it.

- Q: Okay, we've talked a lot about the present. Now let's look ahead. Who do you see as the major challengers to your title in the next few months?
- A: I'd like to enjoy this win for a while if I could, but I guess I have to look ahead. Uh, that's hard to say. Everybody. Sandman will be after blood. It wouldn't surprise me if he jumped me in an alley somewhere. That's the kind of guy he is. Cactus-we've had some run-ins recently. He used to be such a great quy. Now he just tries to scares me. 2 Cold Scorpio. The AAA guys. The Dudleys. Taz maybe. Raven. Tommy Dreamer. Oh my God, there are so many.

Steve Austin. I almost forgot about him. You know, my worst nightmares are yet to come! But I'll find a way to conquer those nightmares.

- Q: Which of those guys do you think will be the toughest for you to beat?
- A: (Laughs) All of 'em. They're all tough.

They all have different styles. But I'm not asking for anyone's sympathy. I know defending this title will be the toughest thing I've ever had to do, but I'm ready for the challenge. I'm proud to be the ECW champion, and I'm gonna do myself and all the fans proud. I'm not gonna back down from anyone. I don't want anyone to ever call Mikey Whipwreck a coward. I'm not afraid anymore.

- Q: But is there any one man you worry about most?
- A: Austin is as dangerous as any-



All hail Mikey! Axl Rotten and Konnan hoisted Whipwreck onto their shoulders after he won the belt while several other wrestlers applauded the win. It's amazing how much he has improved in the last year or so.

body. He's been to Japan, he's been a champion in WCW. He can do it all. He's come to the ring before a few of my matches and tried to taunt me and push me around. That would have worked against me a year or two ago, but not anymore. He's a great wrestler, but he's an idiot if he takes me for granted. I know in my heart that I have what it takes to beat Steve Austin and anyone else. People get in trouble when they underestimate me.

- Q: You mentioned Public Enemy before. I've seen some of the training videos with you guys together. What kind of difference have they made in your career and in your overall improvement as a wrestler?
- A: Those guys are just plain nuts.

  I mean that in a good way. I don't know if drinking beer and partying counts as training, but, hey, it works for them. Johnny and Rocco helped me a lot. They taught me how to be aggressive and to not be afraid of anyone. We were

together in some six-man tag team matches against Sandman and The Gangstas. You talk about violent. Getting in the middle of that P.E.-Gangstas war was like a death wish. I'm happy I came out of it alive, but it was fun. Johnny and Rocco thought I did pretty good in those matches. I was like an honorary member of Public Enemy.

- Q: What about all these great new moves you've learned in the last year or so? You used to be kind of a joke in some people's minds. Now you are legitimately a fine aerial wrestler.
- A: Thanks. It means a lot when people tell me that, because I have worked real hard on learning new moves. I can't begin to tell you how many bumps and bruises I got in the gym just working on moves like the "Frankensteiner" and some others. All worth it, though.
- Q: Six months from now—and please try to answer this question honestly—do you believe you will

"I know in my
heart that I have
what it takes to
beat Steve Austin
and anyone else.
People get in
trouble when
they underestimate me."



still be wearing that ECW heavyweight belt?

- A: I'll give you an honest answer: Yes! If I don't think I'm gonna have a real long and successful reign, why should I even bother showing up for my matches? I should just hand the belt over to Tod Gordon and tell him to crown a new champion. Maybe I'm the only one who thinks I'll be champion for a long time, but I'm the only one who matters. I don't let what everyone else thinks rule my life. Nobody pushes me around anymore and gets away with it.
- Q: Well said. Thanks for your time, Mikey, and good luck in defending your title.
- A: Thanks for coming, but I'm not relying on luck so much anymore.

## Shot to Hell

They're WWF World tag team champions, they're fan friendly, and they're just genuinely nice guys. Why don't The Smokin' Gunns get any respect? Well, there are a lot of reasons.

# Respects The Smokin's Guns Guns By Steve Anderson

Winning the WWF World tag team title should open doors to respect and fan acceptance for a team.

Even The Smokin' Gunns won their second title in a year, those doors have been slammed shutby the fans themselves!

by Sieve Anderson

'M TELLIN YA. I get no respect."

Those words made comedian Rodney Dangerfield a household name.

Respect is a word bandied about in professional wrestling. Every competitor wants respect. Respect from fans, peers, and even journalists. To get respect, you must have talent. To earn a lot of respect, you must win titles and defend those titles successfully.

Teams that are good enough to win the WWF World tag team title usually earn the respect of just about everyone who follows wrestling. If you're good enough to win it twice, well, now that's something special. Only an elite team could accomplish that. The Samoans, Mr. Fuji and Prof. Tanaka, Tony Garea and Rick Martel, Chief Jay and Jules Strongbow, Mr. Fuji and Mr. Saito, The Moondogs, Demolition, The Hart Foundation, Money Inc., The Quebecers, and Rick and Scott Steiner. All have won at least two WWF tag titles. All were or are terrific teams. Well, most.

"We're tellin' ya. We get no respect."

Those words sum up the feelings of Billy and Bart, The Smokin' Gunns. At this point in their careers, theirs are anything but household names. Fans don't hate them, but they rarely attend a card just to see them. The Gunns, like Dangerfield, are tugging at their sweat-soaked collars. Respect is not coming their way.

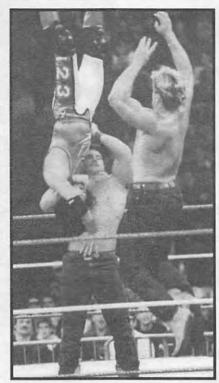
Oh, did we mention that they are the current WWF World tag team champions? That they're on their second WWF World tag title reign of 1995?

How can a team that has been so successful over the last year underwhelm fans so much? Well, maybe not every fan.

"Billy and Bart rule!" cheered eight-year old Mike Siebenaler of Madison, Wisconsin. "They're the greatest. Cowboys! Shootin' down the other teams."

"The Gunns are so cool," said nine-year-old Dave Zadra of Milwaukee. "They're the champions. Now and for a real long time, dude!"







Bart Gunn hoists The Kid into position for a vertical suplex while his brother, Billy, delivers a dropkick. The Gunns work together great in the ring, but that alone doesn't make them an elite tag team.

Not exactly expert analysis, but it does give you a good idea of the Gunns' appeal. Their look and style appeal to the younger set. And that's how the WWF wants it. The WWF doesn't always go after the fans with a hankering for a brewski ... or even pimple medication.

And not all fans concur with the above assessment of the brothers Gunn. Just ask the older set.

"The Gunns lucked out ... twice," grumbled longtime WWF fan Todd Nelsen, 37, of Piscataway, New Jersey. "Who couldn't beat The Kid and Bob Holly for the belts? And Yokozuna and Owen Hart had a grueling defense at a pay-per-view the night and had no time to prepare for their match with the Gunns."

"They stink!" said Andy Petersen, 41, of Dayton, Ohio.

The Gunns are eliciting reactions that are normally reserved for rule-breakers. They often dedicate matches to the fans who are less than crazy about them. They are active in charitable events. They

don't mind signing autographs. They seem to truly love their fans.

But that love is not reciprocated.

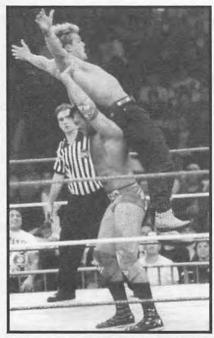
Much of this can be attributed to the attitude of today's fans. A smile and a white hat is not enough to win a lot of them over. Brutal, cocky rule-breaking wrestlers like Ric Flair, Am Anderson, and the recently reformed Shawn Michaels bring a lot of fans to their feet. The Gunns' image is basically nondescript. And that may be the problem.

"They are turkey and mayo on white bread, brother," quipped Jim Comette. "They had to get real lucky against Yoko and Owen. Fans want more. That's why they love me ... or at least they should."

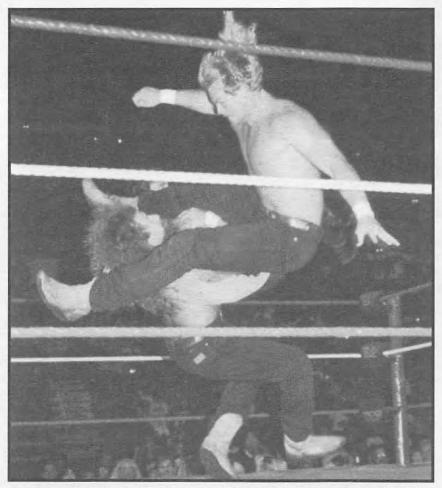
Megalomania aside, Cornette makes a good point. The Gunns are bland. And when a mid-level team wins the whole enchilada, fans immediately look for a team—any team—to beat them. Yokozuna and Owen Hart had immediate credibility as WWF tag team champs because of their previous individual accom-

plishments. They were championship material.

Most fans do not see the Gunns as championship material. They



Billy withstood the pain of Razor Ramon's "Razor's Edge" at In Your House IV, and he and Bart beat Kid and Ramon. It didn't mean all that much, though; Kid and Ramon weren't one of the WWF's top-rated teams at the time.



One reason the Gunns are having such a hard time earning respect is the quality of competition in the WWF. They beat Eli and Jacob Blu many times, but the Blus arrived in the WWF with a less-than-stellar reputation.

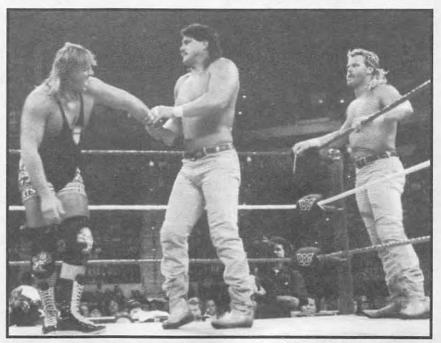
expect the Gunns to wrestle somewhere in the middle of cards. They don't expect the Gunns to be wearing championship belts. The Gunns' success can be attributed to a lessthan-spectacular tag team crop in the WWF. A brother team functioning as a unit will have more success than the numerous mongrel tag teams created to give the current champs competition. Even at In Your House IV in October, they faced a makeshift team. Who did Razor Ramon and The Kid beat to earn a title shot? Besides each other, that is. A few weeks before the match, they weren't even close to being a team. They were feuding!

How would the Gunns have fared five to 10 years ago, when the tag team divisions were much stronger? With teams like The Hart Foundation, The Legion of Doom, The Rockers, and The Brain Busters ruling the WWF, the Gunns would have been where they belong—in the middle of cards.

That's not to say that the Gunns are not talented. Their accomplishments are a result of hard work, great communication in the ring, and above-average skill. But since they entered the WWF, they have rarely been seriously challenged by great veteran teams. Wrestling against experience only serves to give a young team valuable experience. It makes a team better. And it helps a team win over fans.

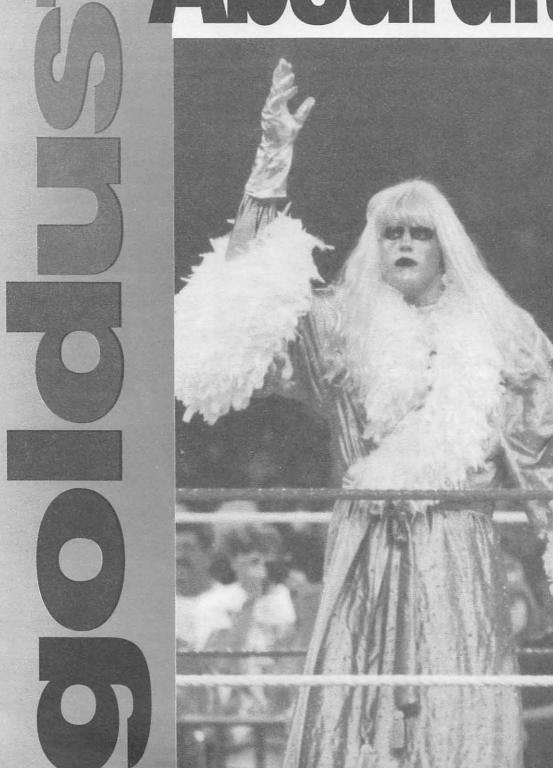
"The WWF needs to bring in some competition," said David Jackson, 28, of Bangor, Maine. "Put the Gunns in there with a team like the Steiners. Then we'll see what they're made of."

Many feel that the trail the Gunns have blazed toward the tag team title has been more like a cakewalk. But the journey to universal fan acceptance is usually fraught with pitfalls. If a team can overcome those obstacles, it will win titles, fan acceptance, and, most of all, respect.



The Gunns' first WWF World tag title reign ended at WrestleMania XI when Owen Hart and Yokozuna overpowered them. And that was one of the first times Owen and Yoko had ever teamed.

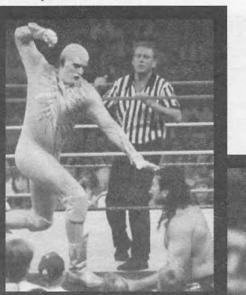
Absurdity



INSIDE WRESTLING

## Son

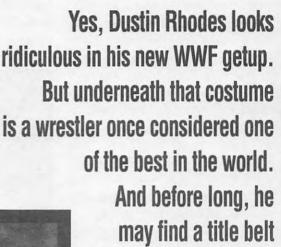
Photos by John S. Pithers



Above: Goldust prepares to deliver a right against an unsuspecting Razor Ramon. Below: Plain-old Dustin Rhodes (in a February 1995 match) applies an armlock on Blacktop Bully. Different personae, same

tough wrestler

INSIDE WRESTLING



#### By Chris Bernucca

that matches his outfit

perfectly.

IRST OR ALL, let's get all the jokes out of the way. The WWF wrestler known as Goldust looks like an Academy Award who has spent a little too much time in the weight room. Or like the long-lost cousin of The Tin Man in The Wizard Of Oz. How about a hapless victim of some insane criminal mastermind in a James Bond movie?

"It is without a doubt one of the worst things I have ever seen in the WWF," said one wrestler whose reasons

51

for requesting anonymity were somewhat obvious.

Okay, any more offerings? Any more snide remarks? Good. Because now we can get to the point. Despite being afflicted with perhaps the most outrageous, pointless getup ever, Goldust can wrestle. Of course, that shouldn't surprise anyone. Goldust is Dustin Rhodes, who wore many championship belts in WCW before making the jump to the rival federation. He is a skilled grappler who has already made an impact on the WWF.

"I don't know why he decided to wear that costume, but beneath it is one great wrestler," said Tom Zenk, who won the WCW six-man tag team title with Rhodes and Big Josh in 1991. "I think everyone is seeing that already."

What everyone is also seeing right now is Goldust wearing gold tights, a gold sequined robe, gold gloves, gold boots, a gold wig, and gold face paint. But absurdity is only skin-deep. While in WCW, Rhodes won World tag team titles with two different partners and the U.S. heavyweight title as a solo competitor. His return to the ring ended a long hiatus, but prior to that, he was considered by many experts to be one of the top 10 wrestlers in America.

Goldust wouldn't comment on his persona, only saying that he is happy to be wrestling again. He is, however, very happy in the WWF, according to one of his close friends.

"After leaving WCW, Dustin had been out of action for a while," the friend said. "He was okay for a couple of months, just fishing and hunting and taking it easy, you know. But then he got that competitive itch that athletes

always get after they're away from their sport for a while. Magic Johnson got it, Ryne Sandberg got it, and Dustin got it. He wanted to come back, and he wanted to come back to a big-time federation.

"He had some problems with WCW, so going back there was out of the question, so he went to the WWF. He was so anxious to wrestle and get a fresh start superstar—that is one of the toughest things to deal with in this sport," said Tekno Team 2000's Erik Watts, the son of Bill Watts, who went through the same thing when he became a wrestler. "The level of expectation is so high, it is unrealistic. I felt like I had to dominate every match I had so people wouldn't compare me to my father. As a result, I sometimes tried too hard



Dustin Rhodes only occasionally used moves from the top and middle ropes in WCW. He has changed his style since becoming Goldust. Maybe he'll turn out to be an even better wrestler than before.

that he just decided to completely change his image and shock some people. I don't think he realized that this would be the reaction to his image. One thing you have to admit, though: He isn't being compared to his father much anymore."

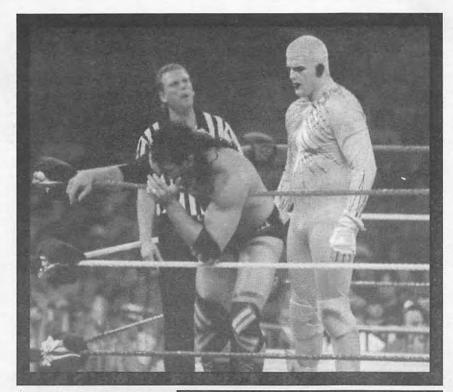
Doesn't Dustin know it. As the son of the legendary Dusty Rhodes, he has been through tough times before, only without the crazy costume. When the younger Rhodes made his wrestling debut, he didn't have gold face paint or a sequined robe. He did, however, have the burden of expectation that came with his last name.

"Sharing a last name with a

and got away from the things I did best in the ring."

Three years ago, Watts and Rhodes were in the same boat. Both were sons of WCW executives, and many believed that they drew favorable opponents because of the influence of their fathers. Dustin was also saddled with a nickname that demanded greatness—"The Natural."

But while Watts has never been able to live up to the billing that came with his surname, Rhodes has. He steadily improved, adding moves and maneuvers to his limited repertoire while gaining strength and confidence. His first major title came in 1991 as a tag team



Goldust showed a nasty mean streak in a recent match with Ramon. While wrestling as Dustin Rhodes in WCW, he was certainly a tough guy, but as a WWF rulebreaker, he's more dangerous.

partner of Rick Steamboat, a seasoned champion who helped him along.

From there, his career took off. Rhodes won another WCW World tag team title—this one with Barry Windham, son of Blackjack Mulligan—and then struck out on his own, winning the U.S. heavyweight title. So if there

is anyone who can handle entering the ring with a preconceived notion already established in the minds of viewers, it is Goldust.

In fact, having that notion established in the minds of opponents could work to Goldust's advantage. It is hard for someone to take seriously an opponent who looks like an extra from *Priscilla: Queen Of The* 

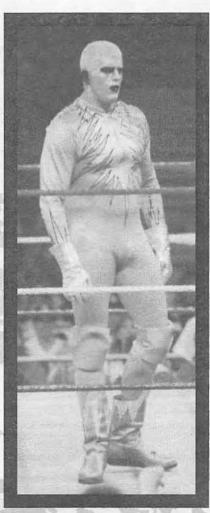
Desert. That should sit just fine with Goldust, who will find it a lot easier to use his devastating heart punch on unsuspecting foes.

"Hey, give the guy a chance," said a WWF rulebreaker. "Everybody laughed at Doink when he first came into the WWF, but nobody was laughing when he started beating quality

opponents. The guy proved he could wrestle. Given the chance, Goldust will prove the same thing. Everybody knows about his track record."

For now, there will still be snickers and guffaws upon his dramatic ring entrance. But Goldust must take heart in the fact that plenty of wrestlers with absurd outfits have achieved success in the WWF. No one was laughing at Randy Savage's apparel when he was winning championships in the WWF.

For Goldust, it's all a question of being comfortable in his own skin.



When you look at Goldust, it is, quite frankly, difficult to refrain from laughing. Maybe that's all part of his plan. Maybe he's hoping his opponents won't be able to take him seriously as a wrestler.

The telephone wires sizzle each month, as two top wrestlers voice their rage and hostility toward each other. Here's the unedited transcript of their conversation, your chance to feel the raw emotion that results when two antagonists face off ... One On One

Armstrong and Jeff Jarrett were together, it was July 23. Armstrong was known as The Roadie in the WWF, and Jarrett was coming off an acclaimed singing performance at In Your House II in Nashville, Tennessee. But there were problems, too. The Roadie's interference caused Jarrett to lose the Intercontinental title to Shawn Michaels that same night.

The following day, Jarrett and The Roadie announced they were leaving the federation. WWF officials tried to keep them in the federation, but their efforts were fruitless. The Roadie returned to Smoky Mountain Wrestling and Jarrett dropped out of wrestling.

Within a few months, Roadie was wrestling under the name Jesse James Armstrong and fighting a battle on a new front. He picked up his bags and traveled across the state to Memphis, where he began to wage war on the most beloved fan favorites in the USWA.

On September 20, Armstrong appeared to have beaten Lawler for the USWA heavyweight title, but the decision was reversed when Armstrong was caught with brass knuckles. The feud intensified with Armstrong's brothers Steve and Brad and father, Bob, joining Jesse James for matches against Lawler, Brian Christopher, Doug Gilbert, Billy Jack Haynes, and others.

But there was one USWA fan favorite who didn't cross the Armstrongs' path: Jeff Jarrett, one of the most popular wrestlers in Mem-

## ONE O



"Well, I'm sorry if you don't like what I'm doing, 'Double-J,' but the way I see it, I'm there, you're not, so why don't you just mind your own damn business?" —Jesse James Armstrong

phis history, remained on the sidelines ... until now.

"I have something to say to Armstrong," Jarrett told Senior Editor Bill Apter during a recent telephone conversation. "And I want you guys to hear it."

We wasted no time making the arrangements and bringing former friends Armstrong and Jarrett together... "One On One."

JESSE JAMES ARMSTRONG: Hey, buddy, how've ya been?

**JEFF JARRETT:** Don't give me that buddy, crap, Armstrong. We both know why we're here.

JJA: I don't know anything of the kind. I was just told by the good people here at INSIDE WRESTLING that you wanted to talk to me and they wanted

to record it. I didn't see what harm it could do, so here I am!

**JJ:** Come off it, Armstrong. You've been messing with the wrong people in Memphis. My people.

JJA: Your people? Who exactly are these people of yours? Tell you the truth, "Double-J," I didn't know you had sunk so low.

JJ: That's it! I'm talking about Jerry Lawler, Brian Christopher, Doug Gilbert. My friends. Your enemies.

JJA: Oh, is that so? Well, I'm sorry if you don't like what I'm doing, "Double-J," but the way I see it, I'm there, you're not, so why don't you just mind your own damn business?

JJ: I am minding my own business. My friends are my business, and I don't like what you're doing to them. You were nothing before I came

## NOME



"You're nothing, Armstrong. Your whole family is nothing. The truth is that my good friend Jerry Lawler runs Memphis ... That's his town, and it'll never be yours!"

—Jeff Jarrett

along, and you'd be nothing now if it wasn't for me.

JJA: Don't be bitter, "Double-J," just because you're nowhere and I'm somewhere right now. There's nothing to get upset about. I'm just dealing with some business that has to be dealt with right now, and it has nothing to do with "Double-J" and The Roadie or Nashville or anything else. This is a battle I have to fight. Just keep your nose out of my business.

JJ: Yeah, so why don't you go back home to Knoxville and fight it there? You were a Smoky Mountain wrestler, Armstrong. You don't belong in Memphis.

JJA: Don't tell me where I belong, Jarrett. I don't like it when people tell me where I belong. If not for some cotton-pickin' biased referee, I'd be USWA heavyweight champion right now and that dog Lawler would be groveling at my feet. Where I belong is on top of the USWA, nowhere else.

JJ: So tell me something, Armstrong. What's with you and Lawler? If I remember correctly, back in your Roadie days in the WWF, Jerry had a lot of good things to say about you. In fact, he was one of the few people who had anything good to say about you. What's with you?

JJA: That's something I'm not at liberty to talk about, but believe you me that Jesse James Armstrong and Jerry Lawler don't see eye-to-eye. He did something that I didn't appreciate very much. Now he's paying the price.

JJ: I don't believe you, Armstrong. I think you're just trying to make a name for yourself at somebody else's

expense. It ain't gonna work.

JJA: A name for myself? I'm making a name for myself? I don't have to make a name for myself at anyone's expense! The Armstrong name is one of the greatest in professional wrestling today. We came here by the truckload, and there's a lot more we left behind. You're talking about a family affair, buddy, and we've taken over the USWA!

**JJ:** Right. Exactly which titles do you guys hold?

JJA: Hey, I'd be USWA heavy-weight if ...

JJ: If, if, if! Give it a rest. You're nothing, Armstrong. Your whole family is nothing. The truth is that my good friend Jerry Lawler runs Memphis and has for years. That's his town, and it'll never be yours! Brian Christopher, he gets the kind of respect that you could only dream about. And if you want to talk about owning a town, Armstrong, well, then you should just see me when I walk down the streets in Memphis. I'm a hero down there. You're a big nothing.

**JJA:** Big deal, Jarrett, so you're a hero with the mutants of Memphis. That says a lot!

**JJ:** It says a whole lot more than you could ever say about yourself ...

JJA: Not exactly, Jarrett. I'm a god in Knoxville. It's only the people in Memphis who fall for these losers. Besides, if you're so mad, c'mon in. I'd love to take you on, too.

JJ: I just might take you up on that offer someday, Armstrong, you never know. There's a few things we have to settle, so we might as well settle it head-to-head, one-on-one, although I know you couldn't keep your brothers and father out of our business. Just keep looking over your shoulder, Armstrong. You never know when I might show up.

JJA: Sure, I'm shaking in my shoes. You'll be no tougher than Lawler or Christopher ...

**JJ:** Who you couldn't beat without those brass knuckles. A loser's a loser, Armstrong. You're a loser.

JJA: Say what you want, Jarrett. At least I got the guts to wrestle.



WCW HALLOWEEN HAVOC '95

3 hrs / \$49.95

Send to:

T.V. Sports Video P.O. Box 1003 Darien, CT 06820

\$49.95 each plus \$5.00 s&h vhs format

Visa or Mastercard call toll free 1-800-729-0360

Please send me @ \$49.95 each

- ☐ WCW Great Amer Bash '95
- ☐ WCW Fall Brawl '95

Please indicate method of payment

- Check or money order payable to TV Sports Video
- ☐ Visa /MasterCard

Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State Zip

Videos

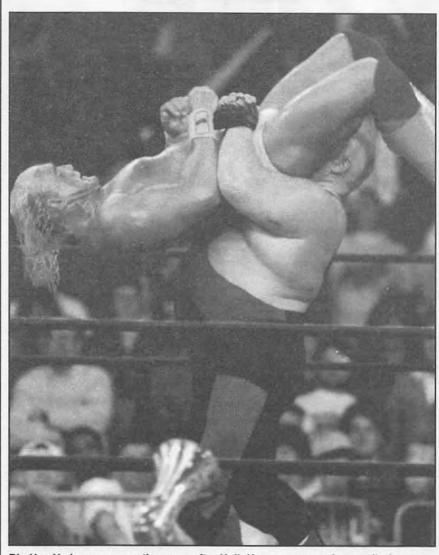
Tax for CT & NY

P & H \$5.00 \$5.00 Total \$

Allow up to 4 weeks delivery. Foreign orders include \$7.00 for each tape in addition to regular s&h charges.

International money orders only. No PAL

#### Sincerely Yours (Continued from page 5)



Big Van Vader was never the same after Hulk Hogan recovered so easily from one of his power bombs, notes reader Dereck Bimer, who hopes Vader regains his killer instinct soon.

Vader's dreaded power bomb? Hogan may have just done that, because ever since that happened, Vader has been much less ineffective. I just hope Vader regains his unique competitive edge before it's too late.

DERECK BIMER Glassboro, NJ

#### BEARER OF BAD JUDGMENT

Paul Bearer better not think about managing another wrestler, because I think that it would only destroy The Undertaker ("White With Fright! Green With Envy! Why The Undertaker Had To Bury Kama," December 1995). Tending to the undead has to be a full-time job in itself. I'm sure it isn't easy trying to please someone who isn't exactly alive. It seems to me Bearer has enough problems trying to get just one man more championship matches. I doubt he'd be able to handle another wrestler in his stable, let alone a great wrestler like Kama.

I agree that Kama deserves a better manager than Ted DiBiase, but I think he needs someone all to himself. Both Kama and The Undertaker deserve full-time managers.

SUSAN KLEMO Corpus Christi, TX

#### RESPECTABLE CHAMP

My heart goes out to NWA champion Dan Severn. He is one of the most hardworking athletes in the sport today. I think many other wrestlers could learn from his dedication to his profession.

One of the things I like best about Sev-

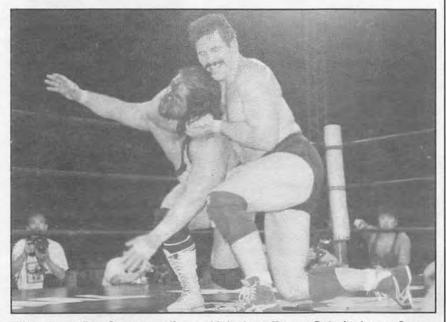
ern is how he defends his NWA heavyweight title without fail. He hasn't sold out to WCW or the WWF, and I admire him for his loyalty to the NWA.



Paul Bearer, manager of The Undertaker, reportedly had his eye on Kama earlier this year. Reader Susan Klemo is glad Bearer decided not to manage him.

I think he is the best, and I think he will bring respect back to the NWA championship.

ELMER FRASURE Grethel, KY



NWA champ Dan Severn applies a chinlock on Tarzan Goto in Japan. Severn should be admired for the way he defends his title and his loyalty to the NWA, says reader Elmer Frasure.

#### Did you ever think about how YOU could get in Pro Wrestling?

Maybe as a wrestler, valet or manager? Or even in a non-wrestling position?

#### OR DO YOU WANT TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT WRESTLING?

Now YOU can find out what you need to know to enter the exciting world of Pro Wrestling! This very insightful book is written by three professionals active in the wrestling business, who between them have worked for every major wrestling association including the NWA, USWA, SMW, WCW and the WWF! You are advised what to do, where to write, how to act, how to get various jobs, what your chances are — and how to better those odds! This book explains things about wrestling you never knew, but need to know! • Details over 50 different jobs possible in wrestling • Lists addresses of ALL U.S. promotions and wrestling schools • Tells where to order boots, tights, etc. in the U.S. & U.K.

Updated 1996 Edition Now Shipping!

#### Inside Secrets on How <u>YOU</u> Can Enter The Exciting World of Pro Wrestling!

Price of book is only \$15, including postage.

Add \$5 for outside U.S. Send cashier's check,
money order or cash for immediate shipment!

PRO WRESTLING CAREER BOOK 2770 Lenox Rd. NE, Ste. 200 • Atlanta, GA 30324

#### MOVING?

#### Kindly give us 8 weeks advance notice

Are you moving? If so, please give us 8 weeks advance notice so we can continue to service your subscription promptly. Check the magazine(s) listed below you subscribe to:

I I DDC	WRESTI	INICI	11110	TD ATEC
LIPRU	VVRESII	HVC 1	11113	BAILL

☐ THE WRESTLER

☐ INSIDE WRESTLING

☐ SPORTS REVIEW WRESTLING

☐ WRESTLING SUPERSTARS

☐ PWI WEEKLY

NAME

OLD ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

NEW ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

EFFECTIVE DATE

Clip this form and send to: LONDON PUBLISHING CO. P.O. BOX 910 FT. WASHINGTON, PA 19034

2732/08-94

#### On The Road

(Continued from page 10)

responsibility and a bad wisdom tooth were getting the best of me.

She finally answered. "About three weeks ago," she said.

"Who invited you?"

"Arn, I think," she said. "The invitation said something about some kind of reunion party in Detroit. I don't know why they picked Detroit."

My next stop was over by the maitre d' stand, where I stuck a \$10 bill in the man's hand and told him I had a few questions.

"Let's say I wanted to book this room," I asked him. "How far in advance would I have to plan?"

"Oh, I'd say about two months, monsieur," he said.

"And when was this party booked?"

"Oh, I'd say about two months ago, monsieur."

Satisfied that I had proven my case beyond a reasonable doubt, I walked up to Flair. He didn't even get the chance to ask me how I was enjoying the party. I accused him of planning the Sting ambush for months and deceiving people by making believe that he was at odds with Arn.

Flair smiled. He grabbed his

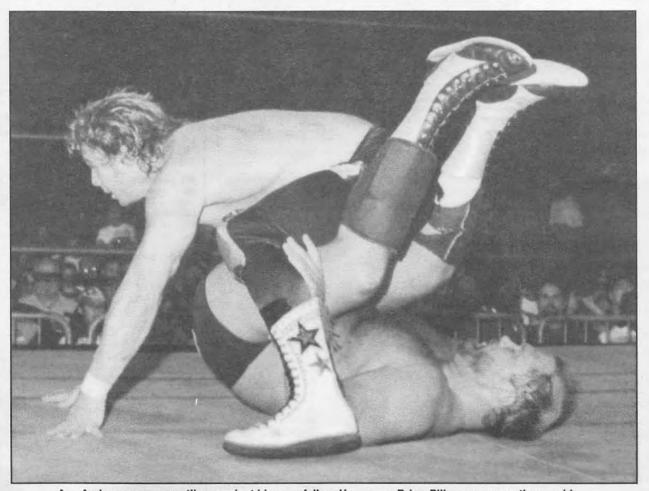
chin and looked down. Then he finally spoke.

"Nobody's ever accused Ric Flair," he said, "of being a disloyal friend."

"That's all?" I asked him.

"What more do you want?" he said. "Now, stop being a journalist and enjoy the party."

I did, but it wasn't easy. Two shots of Chivas dulled the pain of the wisdom tooth. It would have taken about five more to dull the pain of being hoodwinked again by the best there ever was, the best there ever will be at the fine art of deception.



Arn Anderson was wrestling against his now-fellow Horseman Brian Pillman as recently as mid-September. Perhaps he was trying to figure out if Pillman was true Horseman material. And perhaps Flair masterminded the entire plan.

#### Behind the Door

(Continued from page 12)

videotape, and there's always one in my VCR."

A poster of Farrah Fawcett on his wall?

Check. "And none of that sleazy stuff she's doing now for *Playboy*."

Every Bee Gees album ever made?

Check. "Three copies of the Saturday Night Fever soundtrack, one on vinyl, one on eight-track, and the other on CD."

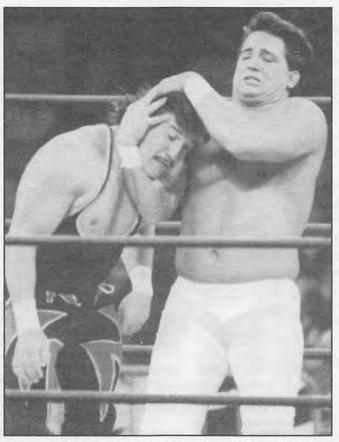
A closet full of platform shoes?

"You'd better believe it," he told me. "I can't believe it. These days you can get a pair for about five bucks in those liquidation stores. What's with people's tastes these days?"

The best thing about it is that Disco Inferno is dead serious. People laugh at his clothes and his music, but he doesn't seem to notice or care. His first reaction after getting tossed onto the arena floor is to fix his hair. Yo, he spends a lot of time on his hair!

Now some people might say that Disco Inferno should spend less time on his hair and more time on developing his wrestling skills. I disagree. To me, Disco Inferno is disco's version of The Honky Tonk Man, the rock 'n' roll singer who shocked the world when he pinned Rick Steamboat for the WWF Intercontinental title in 1987 and carried on the longest I-C reign of all-time.

People laughed when Honky Tonk called himself the greatest Intercontinental champion of all-time, but the proof was in the record. Speaking of records, Honky Tonk's performance at the 1988 Slammy Awards—memorable because Andy Rodriguez still



Disco Inferno twists the neck of Eddy Guerrero en route to yet another loss. Disco is having a real hard time winning in WCW. Strange, but he doesn't seem to care.

breaks out in uncontrollable laughter whenever I mention it to him is a cult classic.

Disco Inferno, in the spirit of The Honky Tonk Man, is very capable of converting his confidence and positive attitude into a victory for the U.S. title. Okay, maybe the TV title.

Of course, he has other things on his mind, too.

I mentioned to Disco Inferno that there's a radio station in South Florida that plays non-stop 1970s disco every Saturday night.

"Yeah, so what? What are they supposed to play?" he responded. "That's what the people want."

I asked him if he's ever visited

Club 2001, the main venue of Saturday Night Fever. Like a true SNF expert, he patiently explained to me that Club 2001 didn't really exist, at least not in Brooklyn. It was a fictional name for an actual club.

More Disco Inferno information: He's a member of the Donna Summer fan club, thinks the '70s Preservation Society is a hoax, and can't understand why polyester, "the most comfortable, versatile fabric in the world" has been displaced by cotton as the fabric of choice.

But he admits that life isn't easy these days. Discos are getting increasingly hard to find, and they've been taken over by dance clubs where loud, beating,

retro-pop is the sound of choice. When he's on the road, Disco Inferno hunts out the nearest Holiday Inn and looks for the revolving crystal ball hanging from the ceiling.

Then, and only then, Disco Inferno knows he's in heaven.

And every hair's in place ... always.

Burn, baby!

#### The Insider

(Continued from page 14)

will get what's coming to him. But the only way he wins is if I become a suspicious, cynical loose cannon like him. And I have too many 'Hulkamaniacs' relying on me to ever play that tune."

#### NEWS ITEM: The Domino Theory

Once Hart fell, it figured Lex Luger was next in line. Luger is far too stupid to be a good fan favorite. Fan favorites have agendas; they are out to gain something-a late whistle, a slow/fast count, a good relationship with the administration. Luger is merely trying to survive. His tremendous natural ability maintains his drawing power, which is why after years of disappointments, he's still in line for title shots. His attack on Hogan will place him firmly back in the title loop. How exciting.

#### NEWS ITEM: A Savage disappointment

It would have been a spectacular coming-out party. Had Randy Savage joined Lex Luger and pounded Hulk Hogan, the headlines would have screamed, "Hallelujah! Randy Savage Returns To His Roots!"

Instead, Savage held the party line, came to Hogan's rescue, and got his butt kicked for his trouble. Who knows? Maybe he was thinking that rulebreaking wouldn't sit well with the beef-jerky people. Maybe if he had changed his



Randy Savage must be an idiot if Jimmy Hart is using better judgment than him. Never thought I'd see the day when a maniac like Savage would be afraid to turn against Hogan.

stripes, the wardrobe costs would have bankrupted him. Maybe brother Lanny Poffo promised to write him a poem, which is as strong a deterrent as you're ever gonna get.

Whatever the reason, valid or not, we know in our hearts that Savage is not living his truth. He's a ruthless maniac, a bad mojo dude. He does not like Hulk Hogan. He wants Hogan the way a mongoose wants a cobra ... the way a vulture wants a corpse ...

the way Bill Apter's wife wants Bill to shower.

That's pretty damned bad.

#### NEWS ITEM: Flair does it with flair

The Savage disappointment was more than compensated for by Ric Flair's triumphant return to the limelight. The high point of the entire card came when Flair joined Arn Anderson and Brian Pillman in an attack on Sting—and not just because it's so much fun watching Sting get assaulted.

It signaled the start of Flair's bona fide comeback. You sensed something was back. The strut was intact. The rap was profound. We can overlook the choice of Brian Pillman as one of The Four Horsemen, and I wish Ric would drop the "Whoooooo!" It's starting to sound ridiculous. Why does Flair still "Whooooo!" anyway? The sound makes it seem as if he's suffering

from emphysema. Get with the times, Ric. Try a hearty "Yo!" or "Arrrrrgh!" The "Whooooo!" stuff doesn't cut it anymore.

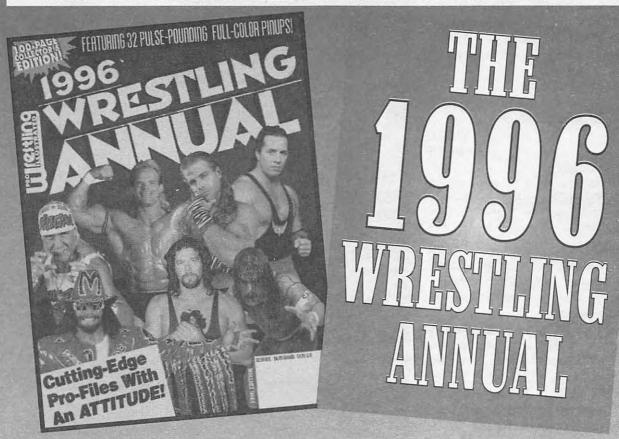
But it's still nice to have you back.

#### NEWS ITEM: WWF vies for bigfederation status again

Meanwhile, in the WWF, Diesel and Bret Hart are gearing up for the Feud of the Decade. Or Feud of the Month at least. Or something maybe.

### ON SAIR DECEMBER 19

PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED PRESENTS...



This senses-shattering spectacular special issue is 100 pages of wrestling action you can't miss! We're profiling 50 of the biggest stars in the sport today—and looking ahead to their prospects for survival in 1996! PLUS: We've packed the issue with 32 full-page full-color pinups that are collector's items in themselves!

The 1996 *Pro Wrestling Illustrated Wrestling Annual* goes on sale everywhere on December 19! Avoid a newsstand sellout—be sure to get yours early!

#### On Assignment (Continued from page 16)

your feelings out of your reporting when you know that a wrongdoing has occurred. Wrestling journalism lends itself to the sensational, so it's not as it I'm writing for *The New York Times*. But the job does require keeping your head on straight and your emotions in check.

Dear Liz,

If you could manage one wrestler, whom would it be?

DAMIEN ZEBUB Norman, OK

Dear Damien.

The Kid. He'd be cute just to have around the house.

Dear Liz.

In your opinion, who's the wrestler with the most sex appeal?

LAUREN VAUGHN

Montgomery, AL

Dear Lauren,

Judging by the reactions of others in his presence, I'd have to say Shawn Michaels. I've seen women melt after he has merely smiled at them. Not my taste, but you can't argue with an arena full of hysterical screams.

Dear Liz Hunter.

Have you ever dated a wrestler? If the answer is yes, did you write about him during the relationship? If the answer is no, was it because you don't date wrestlers? Did you ever consider quitting in order to do so? If so, whom would you like to date?

HERBERT WOODLAND Detroit, MI

Dear Herbert.

I meet lots of men. Unfortunately, most of them are either wrestlers, journalists, or hot dog vendors. I'll admit there are a few wrestlers I've wanted to date and might have dated had I not been a



The mere sight of Shawn Michaels is enough to make many a woman scream. Not Liz, though. She admires "The Heartbreak Kid's" wrestling's skills, but he isn't the kind of guy she'd like to date.

journalist, but I will not satisfy your tabloid curiosity and name names. I did consider quitting and settling down to raise a family. Obviously, I did not. This business doesn't lend itself to domestic tranquility. But I'm keeping my fingers crossed.

Dear Liz,

Can Razor Ramon dance?

Someone told me they saw the two of you at a nightclub dancing? Is this true? Did you do the tango?

LUISA MIGUEL Miami, FL

Dear Luisa.

While the thought of tangoing with Ramon is worth a daydream, alas, it was not me that night in Razor's arms. Your source needs glasses.

#### Back Issues of



Be sure to till in the gaps in your tollection of INSIDE WRESTLING, "The magazine that rips the lid off pro wrestling." Get all the information you need to keep up on the pro wrestling scene. Don't be left out. Avoid sellouts-order today!

June 1990/Stories include: Sting, Saito-

May 1985/Stories include: Slaughter, Garvin, Albano, Koloffs. July 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erich, Nikita, Warriors. July 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erich, Nikita, Warriors. November 1985/Stories include: Steamboat, Adams, Freebirds, Cornette, February 1986/Stories include: R'n'R Express, Warriors, Mulligan & Windham. June 1986/Stories include: Bulldogs, Windham-Flair, Lance Von, Blanchard. July 1986/All-American Special Issue. Stories include: Hogan, Slaughter, T.A. September 1986/Stories include: Andre, Rhodes-T.A., Adams, Windham. November 1986/Stories include: Warriors-Flair, Bulldogs, Watts, Adams. December 1986/Stories include: Hogan-Adonis, R&R Express, Baby Doll. January 1987/Stories include: Rude-Flair, Piper, T.A., Taylor. February 1987/Stories include: Hogan-Piper-Omdorff, Taylor, Flair. March 1987/Stories include: Flair, Missy, Luger, Bulldogs, Koloffs. April 1987/Stories include: Windham, Steamboat, Ellering, Duggan. May 1987/Stories include: Windham & Luger, Steamboat, Hogan-Andre. June 1987/Stories include: Piper-Adonis, Horsemen, Adams, Hall, Brody. August 1987/Stories include: Dusty & Nikita, Hogan, Mike Von, Cornette. September 1987/Stories include: Hogan-Race, R&R Exp., Rich, Honky Tonk, October 1987/Stories include: R&R Express, Hogan, Taylor-Adams, Lawler. November 1987/Stories include: War Games, Mr. T, Bulldogs, Rhodes. December 1987/Stories include: Freebirds, Rhodes, Magnum, Savage, Perez. January 1988/Stories include: R&R-Horsemen, Hogan, Flair-Garvin. February 1988/Stories include: Savage, Kevin Von, Sting, Tully & Arn. March 1988/Stories include: Bigelow,

April 1988/Stories include: Luger-Flair, Ultimate Warrior, Andre-Hogan-DiBiase. May 1988/Stories include: Zbyszko. DiBiase, Warriors, Rockers, Fritz Von. June 1988/Stories include: Warriors. Savage, R&R Express, Baby Doll. July 1988/Stories include: Hogan-Savage-DiBiase, Kerry & Hayes, Sting. August 1988/Stories include: Savage, Missy Hyatt, Sting, Hayes, Honky Tonk. October 1988/Stories include: Megapowers vs. Megabucks, Horsemen, Lawler. November 1988/Stories include: Rhodes, Kerry, Luger, Muraco, Freebirds. December 1988/Stories include: Powers of Pain, Ultimate, Flair, Piper. January 1989/Stories include: R&R Express, Hogan, Sting, Arn, Kerry-Lawler. February 1989/Stories include: Hogan-Bossman, Tully & Arn, Warriors-Windham-Sting. March 1989/Stories include: Hennig, Midnights, Fuller & Golden, Ultimate. May 1989/Stories include: Hogan, Steiner, Morton, Bad Co., Taylor. June 1989/Stories include: Hogan-Savage, Luger, Steamboat-Flair. July 1989/Stories include: Savage, Windham, Kerry, Demolition, Sting. August 1989/Stories include: Hulkamania, Steamboat, Rude, Cornette. September 1989/Stories include: Savage-Hogan, Luger, Mascaras, Rhodes. October 1989/Stories include: Hall &

Pillman & Vicious, Hennig, Swats vs.

Sting, Luger, Paul E., Mascaras.

Flair, Hogan-Zeus, Embry.

Sting-Flair, Roberts-DiBiase.

Ultimate, Rhodes, Sawyer.

Skyscrapers, Zenk, Rude-Piper.

November 1989/Stories include: Elizabeth,

December 1989/Stories include: Rhodes.

January 1990/Stories include: Hogan,

February 1990/Stories include: Warriors-

April 1990/Stories include: Starrcade '89,

May 1990/Stories include: Hogan-Ultimate,

Warriors, Rhodes.

Zbyszko, Earthquake, Ultimate, Jarrett, July 1990/Stories include: Steiners, Sting, Warrior & Hogan, Earthquake. August 1990/Stories include: Luger-Flair. Hogan, Warrior, Taylor. September 1990/Stories include: Hogan, Duggan, JYD, Adams, Horsemen. October 1990/Stories include: Sting, Legion of Doom, Bushwhackers, Gigante. November 1990/Stories include: Flair, Hogan, Vicious, Slaughter, Orients. December 1990/Stories include: Hogan, Sting, Kerry, Cornette, Zbyszko. January 1991/Stories include: LOD, Adams, Steiners, Lawler-Funk. February 1991/Stories include: Taylor, Hogan, Martel, Sting, all-annoying team. March 1991/Stories include: Hogan-Earthquake, Roberts-Martel, Sting. April 1991/Stories include: Flair-Sting, Steiners, Piper, Zbyszko, Slaughter. May 1991/Stories include: Savage-Warrior, Steiners, Sting, Virgil. June 1991/Stories include: Steiners, LOD. Koloff, I-C belt, Dundees. July 1991/Stories include: Hogan, Virgil, Funk, Nastys, Steiners, Spivey. September 1991/Stories include: Justice-Hogan, Hyatt, Rude, Hennig. October 1991/Stories include: Savage & Liz, Hogan & Warrior, Luger. November 1991/Stories include: Hogan-Savage, Luger, Flair, War Games. December 1991/Stories include: SummerSlam, York, Simmons. January 1992/Stories include: Sting, Freebirds, Hart, Rhodes, Rotundo. February 1992/Stories include: Luger, Hart, Patriot, Rude, Thesz-Rogers. April 1992/Stories include: Hart, Steiners, Liger-Pillman, Roberts. May 1992/Stories include: Justice-Hogan, Liger, Gilbert, Repo Man. June 1992/Stories include: Sting, Hogan, Race, M.A. Bagwell, Atlas.

September 1992/Stories include: War Games, Hogan, Vader, Kamala, October 1992/Stories include: SummerSlam, Steiner-Muta, Simmons. November 1992/Stories include: Flair. Warrior, Vader, top rope rule. December 1992/Stories include: Flair, Ramon, Heavenly Bodies, Jarrett. March 1993/Stories include: Michaels, Nikita Koloff, Windham-Rhodes. April 1993/Stories include: WWF new blood, Sting-Vader, Flair, Paul E. May 1993/Stories include: WrestleMania IX analsis, Andre tribute, Muta. June 1993/Stories include: Doink, Vader-Sting, Jimmy Hart, Steiners, Lawler. July 1993/Stories include: Bravo, Gonzales, Bulldog, Ramon, Arn, Tatanka. August 1993/Stories include: Christopher-Michaels, Hogan-Yokozuna, Hart. September 1993/Stories include: Steiners. Slamboree, Ramon, Sting & Smith, Hart. October 1993/Stories include: SummerSlam preview, Money Inc., Nanny Simpson, Vader-Vicious, Hart-Lawler, November 1993/Stories include: Heavenly Bodies, Jannetty, Rude-Flair, Hogan, Luger, Power Bombs. December 1993/Stories include: Fytch, Austin, Luger, Sting & Flair, Yokozuna. February 1994/Stories include: Hogan, Duggan, Doinks, Blonds, holiday wishes. March 1994/Stories include: Nastys, Parker, Borga, 1994 predictions. May 1994/Stories include: Flair-Rude, Hart, Luger, Morton, Heenan-Bockwinkel. June 1994/Stories include: Steamboat, Snuka, Anthony, Bruise Bros., Blayze. August 1994/Stories include: Piper. Hogan. 911, Freebirds, rulebreakers. September 1994/Stories include: Nastys, Undertaker, Volkoff, Flair-Steamboat, November 1994/Stories include: DiBiase. Sting, Koloff, Diesel, Cactus-Sabu. December 1994/Stories include: Hogan, Bret, Rottens, Cactus, AAA midgets. August 1992/Stories include: Savage-Flair, January 1995/Stories include: Vader, Diesel & Razor, Hart, Luger, Sabu.

 ams, Kolon, Fic	JINY TOTIK, FTG	collus.	uger, woman,	Lawler, LF WA.	
☐ SEPT 77	□ AUG 84	☐ SEPT 87	□ JUNE 89	□ FEB 91	□ DEC 92
☐ SEPT 79	☐ NOV 84	□ OCT 87	☐ JULY 89	☐ MAR 91	☐ MAR 93
☐ SEPT 81	☐ MAY 85	☐ NOV 87	☐ AUG 89	□ APR 91	☐ MAY 93
☐ MAR 82	□ JULY 85	☐ DEC 87	☐ SEPT 89	☐ MAY 91	☐ JUN 93
☐ MAY 82	☐ NOV 85	☐ JAN 88	☐ OCT 89	☐ JUNE 91	☐ JUL 93
☐ JUNE 82	☐ DEC 85	☐ FEB 88	☐ NOV 89	□ JULY 91	☐ AUG 93
☐ JULY 82	☐ FEB 86	☐ MAR 88	☐ DEC 89	☐ SEPT 91	☐ SEP 93
☐ AUG 82	☐ JUNE 86	☐ APR 88	☐ JAN 90	□ OCT 91	□ OCT 93
☐ FEB 83	☐ JULY 86	☐ MAY 88	□ FEB 90	☐ NOV 91	☐ NOV 93
☐ MAR 83	☐ SEPT 86	☐ JUNE 88	☐ APR 90	☐ DEC 91	☐ DEC 93
☐ MAY 83	☐ NOV 86	☐ JULY 88	☐ MAY 90	☐ JAN 92	☐ FEB 94
☐ JUNE 83	☐ DEC 86	☐ AUG 88	☐ JUNE 90	☐ FEB 92	☐ MAR 94
☐ AUG 83	☐ JAN 87	□ OCT 88	☐ JULY 90	☐ APR 92	☐ MAY 94
☐ SEPT 83	☐ FEB 87	☐ NOV 88	☐ AUG 90	☐ MAY 92	☐ JUNE 94
□ OCT 83	☐ MAR 87	☐ DEC 88	☐ SEPT 90	☐ JUNE 92	☐ AUG 94
☐ NOV 83	□ APR 87	☐ JAN 89	□ OCT 90	☐ AUG 92	☐ SEPT 94
☐ MAR 84	☐ MAY 87	☐ FEB 89	□ NOV 90	☐ SEPT 92	□ NOV 94
□ JUNE 84	☐ JUNE 87	☐ MAR 89	☐ DEC 90	□ OCT 92	☐ DEC 94
□ JULY 84	☐ AUG 87	☐ MAY 89	☐ JAN 91	□ NOV 92	☐ JAN 95

#### INSIDE WRESTLING

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE AND MAIL TO:

Jack-Badd, Christopher, LOD.

LONDON PUBLISHING CO. P.O. BOX 910 FT. WASHINGTON, PA 19034

Please send me the back issues I've ch ONLY) as payment in full. PRINT YOUR	ecked. I enclose \$ (U.S. FUNDS I NAME AND ADDRESS CLEARLY
Name	
Address	Apt
City	
State	Zip
For all orders except the U.S., you must	st add \$1.50 for every back issue to be sent

boat mail, and \$3 for every back issue to be sent airmail. Int'l money order in U.S. funds only. Please allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.

In case of a sellout, indicate substitute choice:

3832/06-95

### OFFICIAL RATINGS

#### **TOP 15**

1—BRET HART

(6) WWF World champion

2-DIESEL

(1) No. 2 contender: WWF World title

3-THE GIANT

(-) No. 1 contender: WCW World title

4-RAZOR RAMON

(13) WWF Intercontinental champion

5—LEX LUGER

(5) No. 4 contender: WCW World title

6-KENSUKE SASAKI

(-) U.S. heavyweight champion

7—HULK HOGAN
(2) No. 2 contender: WCW World title

8—DAVEY BOY SMITH

(8) No. 3 contender: WWF World title

9—JOHNNY B. BADD (-) WCW TV champion

10-RANDY SAVAGE

(7) No. 8 contender: WCW World title

11—STING

(3) No. 6 contender: WCW World title

12-2 COLD SCORPIO

(-) ECW TV champion

13—AHMED JOHNSON

(-) USWA heavyweight champion

14—EDDY GUERRERO

(-) No. 9 contender: WCW World title

15-SABU

(12) No. 1 contender: ECW heavyweight title

#### WCW

1-TITLE HELD UP

(-) Most recently held by Hulk Hogan

2-THE GIANT

(-) 430, parts unknown

3—HULK HOGAN

(1) 275, Venice Beach, CA

4—KENSUKE SASAKI

(-) 233, Tokyo, Japan

5—LEX LUGER

(3) 265, Chicago, IL

6—JOHNNY B. BADD

(9) 235, Macon, GA

7—STING

(2) 260, Venice Beach, CA

8-RIC FLAIR

(4) 243, Minneapolis, MN

9-RANDY SAVAGE

(8) 237, Sarasota, FL

10—EDDY GUERRERO

(11) 231, Los Angeles, CA

11-DIAMOND DALLAS PAGE

(5) 260, Tampa, FL

12—CHRIS BENOIT

(-) 218, Edmonton, Alberta

13-BRIAN PILLMAN

(14) 226, Cincinnati, OH

14—ARN ANDERSON (7) 249, Minneapolis, MN

15-KEVIN SULLIVAN

(6) 252, Boston, MA

#### WWF

1-BRET HART

(4) 234, Calgary, Alberta

2-RAZOR RAMON

(6) 287, Miami, FL

3—DIESEL (1) 356, Las Vegas, NV 4—DAVEY BOY SMITH

(3) 245, Leeds, England

5—THE UNDERTAKER

(-) 328, parts unknown

6—AHMED JOHNSON

(-) 255, Pearl River, MS

7—GOLDUST

(-) 254, Hollywood, CA

8-THE KID

(-) 212, Minneapolis, MN

9-MARTY JANNETTY

(11) 230, Columbia, GA

10-DEAN DOUGLAS

(9) 223, Pittsburgh, PA

11-DR. ISAAC YANKEM

(-) 345, Knoxville, TN

12—HUNTER HEARST HELMSLEY

(-) 279, Greenwich, CT

13—SAVIO VEGA

(12) 260, Vega Alta, Puerto Rico

14-OWEN HART

(-) 227, Calgary, Alberta

15—SID VICIOUS

מסוטוא מוכ—כו

(13) 318, West Memphis, AR

#### MOST POPULAR

1—SHAWN MICHAELS

Last issue: No. 1 Most Popular

2—STING

Last issue: No. 2 Most Popular

3—BRET HART Last issue: No. 6 Most Popular 4—RAZOR RAMON

Last issue: No. 7 Most Popular

5—THE UNDERTAKER
Last issue: No. 5 Most Popular

6-HAKUSHI

Last issue: unrated

7-DIESEL

Last issue: No. 4 Most Popular

8—AHMED JOHNSON

Last issue: unrated

9—RANDY SAVAGE Last issue; No. 10 Most Popular

Last issue: No. 10 most ropu

10—HENRY GODWINN

Last issue: No. 11 Most Popular

11—HULK HOGAN
Last issue: No. 3 Most Popular

12—EDDY GUERRERO

13-TOMMY DREAMER

Last issue: No. 12 Most Popular

14-BRAD ARMSTRONG

Last issue: No. 13 Most Popular

15—BARRY HOROWITZ

Last issue: No. 8 Most Popular

#### MOST HATED

1 THE MIN

1—THE KID

Last issue: unrated

2—THE GIANT
Last issue: unrated
3—KEVIN SULLIVAN

4—SID VICIOUS
Last issue: No. 8 Most Hated

7-MABEL

5—JERRY LAWLER

Last issue: No. 6 Most Hated

Last issue: No. 2 Most Hated

6—DAVEY BOY SMITH Last issue: No. 3 Most Hated 8—RIC FLAIR
Last issue: unrated
9—LEX LUGER

Last issue: unrated

10-GOLDUST

Last issue: unrated

11—ROBERT GIBSON
Last issue: unrated

12—DEAN DOUGLAS

Last issue: No. 5 Most Hated 13—BRIAN PILLMAN

Last issue: unrated

14-TERRY GORDY

Last issue: unrated

15—YOKOZUNA Last issue: No. 4 Most Hated

#### TOP 15 TAG TEAMS

. ....

Last issue: No. 1 Most Hated

1—THE SMOKIN' GUNNS
(1) WWF World tag team champions

2—HARLEM HEAT

(2) WCW World tog team champions
3—THE HEAVENLY BODIES

(6) Smoky Mountain tag team champions 4—OWEN HART & YOKOZUNA (10) No. 1 contenders: WWF World tag title

5—PUBLIC ENEMY
(7) No. 1 contenders: ECW tag title

6-THE NASTY BOYS

(8) No. 1 contenders: WCW World tog title

7-PG-13

(5) No. 1 contenders: USWA tog title

8—THE SANDMAN & 2 COLD SCORPIO

(-) ECW tog team champions
9—JESSE JAMES ARMSTRONG & TRACEY SMOTHERS

(-) USWA tag team champions

10-MARCUS BAGWELL & SCOTTY RIGGS

(3) No. 2 contenders: WCW World tog title

11—BOBBY EATON & LORD STEVEN REGAL
(9) No. 3 contenders: WCW World tog title

12—TONY ANTHONY & TRACEY SMOTHERS

(-) No. 1 contenders: Smoky Mountain tog title
13—ARN ANDERSON & BRIAN PILLMAN

(-) No. 4 contenders: WCW World tag title 14—THE PIT BULLS

(13) No. 2 contenders: ECW tag title

15—TECHNO TEAM 2000 (-) No. 2 contenders: USWA tag title These ratings are compiled by the editors with the assistance of promoters, wrestlers, and reporters around the country, and are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and the inherent skill of each wrestler. The number in parentheses indicates a wrestler's position in that category last issue; (-) indicates that the wrestler was not rated in that category last issue... "Most Popular" and "Most Hated" ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and on mail that comes to our offices ... Championships highlighted in bold on the "Roll Call Of Champions" have changed hands since our previous issue ... The information under the championship listing indicates the date that champion won the title, who the former champion was, and where the match took place.

#### For period ended November 21, 1995

#### **ROLL CALL OF CHAMPIONS**

ALL-JAPAN ASIAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: JUN AKIYAMA & TAKAO OMORI (January 29, 1995; from Bobby Fulton & Tommy Rogers; Tokyo, Japan)

ALL-JAPAN INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: MITSUHARU MISAWA (May 26, 1995; from Stan Hansen; Sapporo, Japan)

ALL-JAPAN JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: YOSHINARI OGAWA (September 3, 1995; from Dan Kroffat; Tokyo, Japan)

ALL-JAPAN UNITED NATIONAL CHAMPION: MITSUHARU MISAWA (May 26, 1995; from Stan Hansen; Sapporo, Japan)

ALL-JAPAN WOMEN'S ALL-PACIFIC CHAMPION: YUMIKO HOTTA (September 24, 1995; from Toshiyo Yamada; Kawasaki, Japan)

ALL-JAPAN WOMEN'S CHAMPION: DYNAMITE KANSAI (August 30, 1995; from Aja Kong; Osaka, Japan)

ALL-JAPAN WOMEN'S TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: AKIRA HOKUTO & MIMA SHIMODA (September 24, 1995; from Kyoko Inoue & Takako Inoue; Kawasaki, Japan)

ALL-STATE WRESTLING HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: THE BLACK ASSASSIN (October 21, 1995; from Billy Orderly; Fountain City, TN)

ALL-STATE WRESTLING TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: KEITH & GREG HART (June 15, 1995; from The Intimidators; Alcoa, TN)

AMERICAN COMMONWEALTH HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: T. RANTULA (March 26, 1994; from Rip Sawyer; Johnsonburg, PA)

AMERICAN COMMONWEALTH LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: JOHNNY GRAHAM (October 14, 1995; from Lord Zoltan; Lewistown, PA)

ECW HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: MIKEY WHIPWRECK (October 28, 1995; from The Sandman; Philadelphia, PA)

ECW TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE SANDMAN & 2 COLD SCORPIO (October 28, 1995; from Public Enemy; Philadelphia, PA)

ECW TELEVISION CHAMPION: 2 COLD SCORPIO (August 25, 1995; from Eddy Guerrero; Jim Thorpe, PA)

ICW HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: MARC ASH (February 2, 1995; from Mike Majors; Plymouth, NC)

IWGP HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: THE GREAT MUTA (May 3, 1995; from Shinya Hashimoto; Fukuoka, Japan)

IWGP JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: KOJI KANEMOTO (June 14, 1995; from Sabu; Tokyo, Japan)

MID-EASTERN WRESTLING FEDERATION HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: JIM NEIDHART (October 1, 1995; from Corporal Punishment; Essex, MD)

MID-EASTERN WRESTLING FEDERATION TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: MAD DOG O'MALLEY & JOE THUNDER (July 8, 1995; from Michael Sweet & Rockin' Rebel; Annapolis, MD)

MIDWEST TERRITORIAL WRESTLING HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: TITLE VACANT (Last held by Al Snow)

MIDWEST TERRITORIAL WRESTLING TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: LOS RUDOS (September 9, 1995; from Otis Apollo & Scott D'Amore; Taylor, MI)

NWA HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: DAN SEVERN (February 24, 1995; from Chris Candido; Erlanger, KY) OZARK MOUNTAIN WRESTLING NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPION: THE COLORADO KID (April 10, 1995; from Cactus Jack; Jonesboro, AR)

PACIFIC WRESTLING FEDERATION CHAMPION: MITSUHARU MISAWA (May 26, 1995; from Stan Hansen; Sapporo, Japan)

PACIFIC WRESTLING FEDERATION INTERNATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TOSHIAKI KAWADA & AKIRA TAUE (May 25, 1995; from Kenta Kobashi & Mitsuharu Misawa; Tokyo, Japan)

PRO WRESTLING FEDERATION HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: ITALIAN STALLION (October 21, 1995; beat George South in tournament final; Kings Mountain, NC)

PRO WRESTLING FEDERATION TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: SCOTTY McKEEVER & GEORGE SOUTH (November 16, 1995; from Carolina Dreamer & Randy Sledge; Charlotte, NC)

SMOKY MOUNTAIN HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: TERRY GORDY (October 20, 1995; from Brad Armstrong; Knoxville, TN)

SMOKY MOUNTAIN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE HEAVENLY BODIES (August 4, 1995; from Tony Anthony & Tracey Smothers; Knoxville, TN)

TRI-STAR WRESTLING HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: CAMERON LONE WOLF (November 3, 1995; from Jimmy Sharpe; Rossville, GA)

TRI-STAR WRESTLING TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: KEITH HART & CHRIS STEELHEART (January 6, 1995; from Roger Sartain & Jimmy Sharpe; Rossville, GA)

USWA HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: AHMED JOHNSON (November 6, 1995; from Jerry Lawler; Memphis, TN)

USWA SOUTHERN CHAMPION: TITLE HELD UP (Most recently held by Brian Christopher)

USWA TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: JESSE JAMES ARMSTRONG & TRACEY SMOTHERS (October 28, 1995; from PG-13; Memphis, TN)

WCW TELEVISION CHAMPION: JOHNNY B. BADD (October 29, 1995; from "Diamond" Dallas Page; Detroit, MI)

WCW U.S. CHAMPION: KENSUKE SASAKI (November 13, 1995; from Sting; Tokyo, Japan)

WCW WORLD CHAMPION: TITLE HELD UP (Most recently held by Hulk Hogan)

WCW WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: HARLEM HEAT (September 27, 1995; from Marcus Bagwell & Scotty Riggs; Atlanta, GA)

WORLD WRESTLING ALLIANCE HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: JIM McPHERSON (October 7, 1995; from Chris Evans; Clementon, NJ)

WORLD WRESTLING ALLIANCE TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: BAD ATTITUDE (June 3, 1995; from Doomsday Express; Clementon, NJ)

WWF INTERCONTINENTAL CHAMPION: RAZOR RAMON (October 22, 1995; from Dean Douglas; Winnipeg, Manitoba)

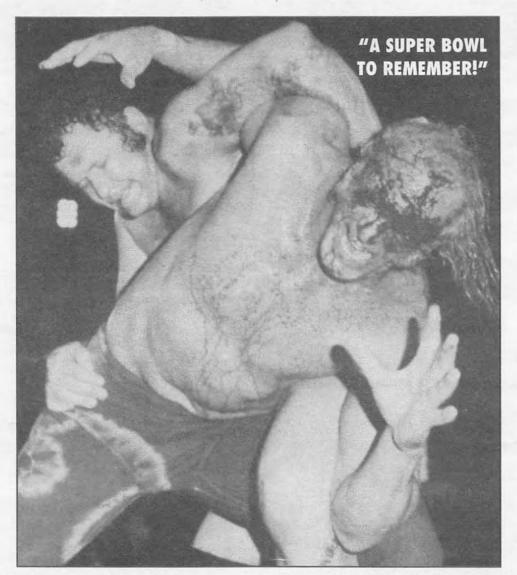
WWF WORLD WOMEN'S CHAMPION: ALUNDRA BLAYZE (October 23, 1995; from Bertha Faye; Brandon, Manitoba)

WWF WORLD CHAMPION: BRET HART (November 19, 1995; from Diesel; Landover, MD)

WWF WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE SMOKIN' GUNNS (September 24, 1995; from Owen Hart & Yokozuna; Grand Rapids, MI)

#### BLAST FROM THE PAST

This Month In Wrestling History

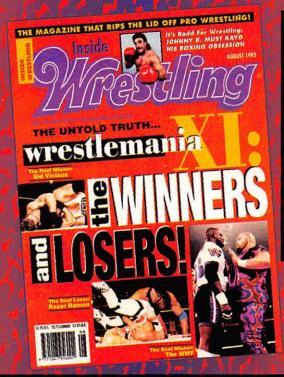


#### HARLEY RACE vs. SUPERSTAR GRAHAM January 25, 1978

You say you're tired of seeing blowouts in the Super Bowl? Well, if you were a wrestling fan back in 1978, you probably remember what was one of the most competitive Super Bowl events of all-time. It was NWA World champ Harley Race vs. WWF World champ Superstar Graham in the "Super Bowl Of Wrestling." Race and Graham battled to a 60-minute draw on a rainy night in Miami, with each man taking one fall in the best-of-three-falls match. We'd sure like to see a WCW World champ vs. WWF World champ match today!

### THE MAGAZINE THAT RIPS ELID OFF PRO WRESTLING!

- In-depth articles from the sport's greatest writers and photographers!
- The famous "Hotseat" interview with one of wrestling's top names!
- "One On One," in which two archrivals meet on the phone to voice their hatred!
- A lively "Capsule Profile"—plus pinup! -of one of your favorite mat stars!
- "Roll Call Of Champions"—the most comprehensive championship directory available anywhere!
- Top 15 ratings in six important categories!
- "Blast From The Past," featuring highlights from the sport's rich history!
- Updates of major mat stars in "Where Are They Now?"
- All this—and more!—every month!



#### Each month, **Inside Wrestling**

works hard and digs deep to uncover the behind-the-scenes stories that you want to read! Subscribe today—and save up to 25% off the newsstand cover price!

#### **GET IN ON ALL** THE ACTION!

Now, with two new ways to subscribe, getting Inside Wrestling delivered to your door each month is easier than ever!

- •Get 13 issues of INSIDE WRESTLING for \$29.20—a 20% savings off the newsstand price!
- •Get 26 issues of INSIDE WRESTLING for \$54.75—a 25% savings off the newsstand price!

#### Send to: Name London Publishing Co. Address P.O. Box 910 Ft. Washington, PA 19034 State Please indicate method of payment Yes, I would like to subscribe to INSIDE WRESTLING Check or money order ☐ I am enclosing \$29.20 for a 13-issue subscription (enclosed and payable to London Publishing Co.) ☐ I am enclosing \$54.75 for a 26-issue subscription ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard # Expiration date: \_\_\_\_/\_ □ NEW RENEWAL MO / YR Signature:

Price offer good in U.S. only. Canada and all other countries: \$39.60 for 13 issues (\$61.70 airmail), and \$75.55 for 26 issues (\$119.75 airmail). For all orders

outside U.S., international money order in U.S. funds only. Please allow up to eight weeks before you receive your first issue.

## PROJECT CONTROL OF THE PAY-PER-VIEW AFTER PAY-PER-VIEW EVENTS

#### HOILLINE

When it comes to wrestling, Pro Wrestling Illustrated magazine has all the inside information you want and it's only a phone call away.

If it happens in the ring, the locker room, or on the road, you'll hear it here first.

To get all the breaking stories from every federation, call the Pro Wrestling Illustrated Hotline now and you'll be the first to learn about ...

Exclusive news from behind the scenes
Upcoming events
Up-to-date results from around the world
Title changes and transactions
Pay-per-view reports
Urestler of the week

Tell the editors of Pro Wrestling Illustrated what you want to see in the magazine. Dictate a letter to the Editor-in-Chief. Selected letters will be printed in Pro Wrestling Illustrated.

#### CALL NOW

IN THE U.S., 1-900-884-4PWI IN CANADA, 1-900-451-3101 IN THE U.K., 0891 299 712

This service is available on both touch-tone and rotary-dial phones.
\*Cost per minute in the United States and Canada is \$1.99 per. Cost per minute in the
United Kingdom is 39p cheap rate and 49p at all other times, incl. VAT.

Kids, get your parents' permission. BCM Box 6424, London WCIN 3XX

4112/08-95